THE NONCONFORMIST.

"The dissidence of dissent and the protestantism of the protestant religion."

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ECCLESIASTICAL AFFAIRS.

WHAT A STATE CHURCH PROFESSES TO DO.

RELIGION! Here must our inquiries begin if we are to estimate correctly the philosophy of a state church—seeing that it is not very easy to pronounce a decision upon the fitness of a given apparatus of means, in entire ignorance of the end such means have been framed to accomplish. Our readers need be under no alarm. We have no design of introducing to their notice thoughts whose proper home lies in the regions of theology, nor shall we ask them to converse with truth dressed up in the everlasting buckram of technicality and cant. There can be nothing unbecoming in looking with the common intelligence of man upon what is designed for man—or in endeavouring to see under cover of a word, not seldom obtruded upon our notice, a definite and intelligible thing. Religion is the ostensible object of an established church. Statesmen tell us that it is the safeguard of nations, the basis of all social and political order, the very breath of our national life. Why then, of course, it is a reality. May we not look at it without offence to their rules of conventional propriety? Are we precluded from asking, "What is this thing, to work out which we have erected machinery so costly?" Must the name suffice us? Is it a mere token—a pass-word—cabalistic letters which shut up a meaning into which none but the initiated may inquire? We are not just of that opinion. "What is it which a state church proposes to do?" seems to us a preliminary question to that other, "Whether it is well adapted to do what it proposes." It takes from us millions annually for the express and avowed object of promoting religion. Spite of all customs, maxims, conventionalities to the contrary, we shall take leave to examine for ourselves, and for our readers, what religion really is.

Strange as it may seem, it is not more strange than true, that the self-appointed, self-authorised guardians of our national religion are the least disposed to hear with patience any remarks tending to the elucidation of the thing. They appear intent upon building for religion a splendid mausoleum into which the heavenly maiden may retire, and trouble them no more. Most of them would blush to be caught conversing with her, and accordingly they seldom expose themselves to the possibility of detection. They love her most enthusiastically—indeed she is their pet ward, the protection of whom it would be shocking to leave to the capricious offices of her own sincere votaries. But, then, the less they see of her the better. Should she venture to show herself in their assemblies, even when they deliberate upon her well-being, she would be sneered at as an intruder. How many of our christian senators ever deigned to look her in the face, or commune freely and intelligently with the object of their impassioned love? In other words, out of the whole number of gentlemen who legislate for the church, could fifty be found who have the slightest notion of what that thing is, which they regard themselves as commissioned to superintend? Princes in philosophy! Wondrously sagacious statesmen! ever busying themselves about an object which they never tried to comprehend—foremen in a department the main design of which is a mystery as dark and impenetrable to them as the closest secrets of the natural world.

Yet is religion not a name merely, but a thing—a definite, intelligible, infinitely important reality. It is man's loyalty to the Author of his being, or rather a return to loyalty from insubordination and revolt. The word is significant. To be re-bound to the Supreme, to be *liege*men, to come back to *allegiance*, to be in principle and in heart *loyal* (all of them kindred words)—this, we take it, is the meaning of religion. Men are religious when they habitually recognise and obey divine authority.

This being an affair of the will, we have an idea that it must be brought about by persuasion. Loyalty is a matter of the heart, be it to a temporal or a spiritual monarch—a deep-seated principle, not an external act—a living power within, of which deeds are only the various modes of development. Blind or constrained loyalty are simple contradictions in terms. Men must be won to it—cannot be driven into it. To stick a form of compliment upon a man's memory, or make him utter it with his tongue, or force him to show himself in a court-house once a week to hear lectures upon loyalty, is not to make men loyal. They may be desperate traitors after all. Now our object is to ascertain, not whether a state church can succeed in pasting a creed upon passive minds, or reading homilies in every parish to an assembled audience, but whether it is well adapted to win men back to loyalty to heaven.

That it is the duty of the state to provide religious instruction for the people, is a political axiom. It is no design of our's in the present article to question its truth. But, in the name of all that's manly, let us understand it. Let the dicta of the Duke of Wellington and the bishop of Exeter, of Mr. Wakley and Colonel Sibthorpe, suffice for the truth of it. For the nonce we will consent to take it upon their eminently satisfactory authority. We question not the divinity of the oracle, but we would fain know its meaning. These illustrious men are part and parcel of the state—and if their utterances have in them a particle of sense, it amounts to this—that it is the duty of the assembled Wellingtons, Exeters, Wakleys and Sibthorpes, to devise in their wisdom suitable means for presenting that truth to the minds of British subjects, and for so presenting it as may appear to them best calculated to persuade the people to submit to the authority of heaven—to convince them that it is their duty, to make them understand that it would be their happiness, to put themselves under divine government, and in all cheerfulness and gladness of heart to serve the Author of their being—in one word, to see to it that there be through all the land, a stated proclamation of such views of the Highest, of his rectitude and clemency, of his power and love, as may beget reverence, trust, submission, earnest attachment. The axiom means this, or it means just nothing at all. The religious instruction is designed, as a matter of course, to awaken religious sentiment and feeling—in other words, as we have stated, to produce reverence, submission, trust, love. And we are to understand that Wellington, Exeter, Wakley and Sibthorpe, with their co-legislators, are commissioned to attend to these matters—and to take it upon them as a solemn duty, to order such a system of means at the public expense as may result in the realisation of this great and important object.

Now let our readers bear in mind the real question we have to decide. It is not whether loyalty to a heavenly, is or is not the best guarantee for loyalty to an earthly, government. It is not whether religious instruction must or must not precede the formation of religious principle. It is just this—whether an order of men, selected and authorised by our Wellingtons and Wakleys, and supported by funds payable at their demand, and payable only because they demand them, is likely to be the most efficient instrumentality to bring men back to their allegiance to God. We now understand what is the end sought—we are pretty well acquainted with the means employed. The point we have to determine is, whether, as a mere matter of philosophy, the means are adapted to secure the end. This we shall examine in succeeding numbers.

THE FIXED DUTY PLAN IN RESPECT TO BIBLE TAXATION.

THE eight shillings duty on the importation of corn, has been rejected by the people as a worthless compromise. The same people will assuredly refuse to ratify with their consent the truce entered into with the Queen's printer, touching bible monopoly. Mr. Spottiswoode is "wiser in his generation than the children of light." He let go just in time, and he has saved his patent together with a goodly share of its emoluments. We say, he has saved his patent—we mean, only for the present. Many thousands looked on in silent disappointment when the compact was signed and sealed, according to the tenor of which he was to cheapen his stock for the advantage of being let alone. But Mr. Spottiswoode has forgotten that he has to deal with a British public, who, whenever they are convinced that delusion has been practised upon them, are apt enough to resolve upon signal revenge. It will be well for the patentee if he have no practical proof of this.

The annual meeting of the Home Missionary Society, is to be held this month at Nottingham, which will be attended by ministers from all parts of the country. We understand it is the intention of Dr. Thompson of Coldstream to be present, and to propose some practical resolution on the subject of bible monopoly. We are delighted to know that in Nottingham, this valuable and indefatigable advocate of the unrestricted printing of the scriptures, will find many earnest and zealous co-adjutors. Let Mr. Spottiswoode think as he will, his patent will not long stand the siege of dissenting clerical denunciation. Dr. Thompson's resolution will be carried as a matter of course—for no man bearing the ministerial office, or anxious for ministerial success, will dream of opposing it. To suspect such a thing, were to throw a gross insult in the face of the whole dissenting body. The time is appropriate—the matter one of urgent importance—and no one will think of putting an obstacle in the way. We look, consequently, to see Dr. Thompson's resolution carried without opposition, and we have no doubt that the Nottingham example will be catching.

THE CONSTITUTIONS AND CANONS ECCLESIASTICAL OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND.

XVII. Students in colleges to wear surplices in time of divine service.

All masters and fellows of colleges or halls, and all the scholars and students in either of the universities, shall, in their churches and chapels, upon all Sundays and holy-days, and their eves, at the time of divine service, wear surplices according to the order of the church of England: and such as are graduates shall agreeably wear with their surplices such hoods as do severally appertain to their degrees.

XVIII. A reverence and attention to be used within the church in time of divine service.

In time of divine service, and of every part hereof, all due reverence is to be used; for it is according to the apostle's rule, "Let all things be done decently and according to order;" answerably to which decency and order we judge these our directions following: No man shall cover his head in the church or chapel in the time of divine service, except he have some infirmity; in which case let him wear a night-cap or coif. All manner of persons then present shall reverently kneel upon their knees, when the general confession, litany, and other prayers are read; and shall stand up at the saying of the belief, according to the rules in that behalf prescribed in the Book of Common Prayer: and likewise when in time of divine service the Lord Jesus shall be mentioned, due and lowly reverence shall be done by all persons present, as it hath been accustomed; testifying by these outward ceremonies and gestures their inward humility, christian resolution, and due acknowledgment that the Lord Jesus Christ, the true eternal Son of God, is the only Saviour of the world, in whom alone all the mercies, graces, and promises of God to mankind, for this life and the life to come, are fully and wholly comprised. None, either man, woman, or child, of what calling soever, shall be otherwise at such times busied in the church, than in quiet attendance to hear, mark, and understand that which is read, preached, or ministered; saying in their due places audibly with the minister, the confession, the Lord's prayer, and the creed; and making such other answers to the public prayers, as are appointed in the Book of Common Prayer: neither shall they disturb the service or sermon by walking or talking, or any other way; nor depart out of the church during the time of service or sermon, without some urgent or reasonable cause.

On Thursday last a meeting of the rate-payers of New Brentford was held, to consider the propriety of making a church rate for the current year. The Rev. Dr. Stoddart presided. Before the motion for making a rate was submitted, the resignation of the late organist was laid before the vestry, and the meeting was called upon to consider the best means of appointing his successor. It appeared that when the organ was first placed in the church it was intended that the organist should be paid by voluntary contributions. This rule it appeared had been first departed from in the year 1814, since which time the organist had been paid out of the church rate. The applications of the several candidates having been read, Mr. Waters proposed, "that in future the salary of the organist be paid by voluntary contributions." This proposition was seconded by Mr. Cherry, and carried on a division by a majority of nine. Mr. Jones and Mr. Swapp demanded a poll in the name of the minority, but after a long discussion this demand was withdrawn, at the request of the gentlemen who composed the minority. The churchwarden, Mr. Sims, then stated that he had copied from the accounts of the late churchwardens those items which appeared to him to be absolutely necessary, and had found them to amount to about 69*l.* He therefore asked for a rate of 3*d.* in the pound to raise that sum. The proposal for a rate was seconded by Mr. Crighton. Mr. Cunnington then proposed, "That the meeting for making a church rate be adjourned until it has been ascertained whether the amount can be raised by voluntary contributions." Mr. Cunnington proceeded to recommend the adoption of the amendment by various considerations of justice and propriety, stating that he was most unwilling to oppose his friends on the other side, but, as a dissenter, he felt bound to resist the imposition of a church rate. This amendment was seconded by Mr. Waters. The chairman refused to put the amendment to the meeting, stating that he was not compelled to put any question but that on which the vestry had been called, namely, the making of a church rate. Mr. Bontems supported the amendment, and pledged himself that if the voluntary principle should be adopted and should fail, he would offer no further opposition to the making of a rate to raise the sum required. The chairman still refusing to put the amendment, Mr. Bontems inquired whether it was his determination not to put any amendment that might be proposed. The chairman would not answer that question. Mr. Bontems then proposed, "That the meeting to make a church rate be adjourned for twelve months." This amendment was seconded by Mr. Wood. The chairman also refused to put this amendment. After a long and angry discussion upon the conduct of the chairman in refusing to put any amendments, the vestry divided upon the question of making the rate, and, the numbers being equal, the chairman gave the casting vote in favour of the rate. A poll was demanded by the opponents of the rate, which was fixed to take place on Friday and Saturday. In the course of the discussion it was elicited that several dissenters had not paid the last and former church rates. Mr. Waters, who had a copper taken from his shop and sold for a church rate a little time back, stated that he should get another copper ready, as he did not intend to pay any more church rates. Several gentlemen present joined in this declaration.

On Thursday last a meeting of the inhabitants of the town and parish of Woolwich was convened by the churchwardens in vestry for the purpose of making a rate to defray the repairs of the parish church, and other disbursements of the churchwardens. At the time appointed for the commencement of business, the vestry of the church not being sufficiently capacious to accommodate the number of rate payers who were in attendance, it was found necessary to adjourn to the national school-room, where the business was proceeded with. The churchwardens having demanded a rate of 2*d.* in the pound, and a resolution in favour of the rate having been moved and seconded, William Hale, Esq., moved as an amendment that the consideration of the subject be postponed until that day twelvemonths. The amendment having been seconded by Mr. Frederick Pearce, Mr. Hubbard, an old and respected inhabitant, stated that he opposed the rate on the ground of his having been recently in a most arbitrary manner ejected from his pew in the parish church, which he had occupied during the last twenty years, he, therefore, proposed a rate of one farthing in the pound. This motion was seconded by a gentleman who complained of similar treatment. Mr. Birt then moved, as an amendment, that the vestry be adjourned until that day four weeks, and this amendment being seconded, Mr. Hale withdrew his in favour of Mr. Birt's proposition. Mr. Chiswell, the chairman, then put the amendment, which was carried by a majority of nearly ten to one.

A meeting was held on Thursday, the 23d ult., at Low Harrowgate, to lay a church rate, which was numerously attended by the rate payers, the Rev. G. Digby, the incumbent, in the chair. The vestry being found too small, an adjournment into the body of the church took place, where an animated discussion ensued between some of the rate payers and the churchwardens, respecting a violation of a promise which the latter had made on a former occasion, to the effect that they would procure the church building act. After a well-merited reproof had been administered to them for not having complied with that decision, Mr. H. Wilkinson proposed, and Mr. John Thompson seconded a motion, that a rate of 2*d.* in the pound be granted, upon the condition that the church building act should be obtained. An amendment was then moved by Mr. James Briggs, and seconded by Mr. Thomas Linforth, jun., that the question of laying a rate be adjourned to that day twelve months, which being put by the chairman, was carried by an overwhelming majority, there being only nine hands held up for the rate. The minister and churchwardens appeared much dissatisfied and highly mortified at such an unexpected decision, and this they exhibited the more by their obstinate determination in endeavouring to prevent the amendment being entered in the church books. A warm and protracted debate arose upon this point, which did not reflect much credit on the church party, but who were again thwarted by the manly and dignified spirit of their opponents. The churchwardens and their friends having sustained three most signal defeats in the short space of a few weeks, we trust they will henceforth see the folly and impropriety of attempting to force a rate upon the parishioners.—*Leeds Mercury.*

We have before us several extracts from the parish register of Blaston St. Giles, in the county of Leicester, in which a spirit is displayed that can hardly have been inherited from the apostles. The reverend registrar thus writes:—

"MEMORANDUM:—That one Thomas Wilson, a barngoer—alias a damnable schismatic—had a child born 1715—but whether baptized or not, we know not. If unbaptized, Null Cromwell would have called it an unbaptized dog, if a son: if a daughter, an unbaptized bitch."

"A child called Samuel, the son of Samuel Porter and Jane his wife, two damnable barngoers, was buried (they say) by Mr. Fenwicke, Jan. 2. 1717: though, a little before, something like baptism was done to the same child by one brazen-faced Jack Pyrate (John 10)—which baptism being null, we may imagine both child and parents to be not much better than brute beasts that perish, but much worse! and such a popish and impious baptizer, prayermonger, and preacher as Pyrate, constantly rebels against the evangelical law of God, as well as against the evangelical law of our land. In a word, such a satanical seducer of souls from the parish church of God to the synagogue of Satan, is just such a damned wicked fellow as damned Noll Cromwell was:—from all which republican rakehells King Jesus deliver King George and the church of England. Amen."

"One Elizabeth Shephard, reprobate wife of reprobrate John Shephard, was buryed (they say) by Mr. Fenwicke, of Hallaton, April 30, 1719. She dyed of an incurable cancer in her brawling tongue, and of a gargrated body; and being of St. Giles's parish, should have been buryed at Medbourn. They both agreed to defraud me of my office and benefice as much as they could, by falsely saying they were in Hallaton parish; which sacrilege might occasion these just judgments, besides other rebellious wickedness of her double tongue, &c. Her husband and she received the h. communion but once at my church since I married 'em, 1713! Schismatical prayers, sermons, and sacraments, prepared her, him, and others, rather for hell than for heaven. *Judice Ecclesiæ Anglicanæ, can.* 128. Briefly—Schismatical prayers, sermons, and sacraments, must be soul-damning prayers, sermons, and sacraments, both to the giver and receiver thereof. Heb. x. 38.—*alibique.*"

"Jane, daughter of Samuel Porter and Jane his wife, two damnable barngoers, (Rev. ii. 9, iii. 9,) was baptized (they say) by one damned Isaams, a Presbyterian preacher: *ergo*, having no more lawful authority to baptize than a chimney-sweeper. —May 15, 1719."

We have other extracts—and worse than these. But we forbear. Or we might show how the reverend writer construes the afflictions of his nonconforming parishioners into "judgments" from above—especially when the sin of nonconformity was aggravated by a denial of those "offerings" which he regarded as his due. In some of these recorded "judgments," the style is a strange mixture of the revolting and the ludicrous:—as, for instance, where he pours out the vial (or inkstand) of his wrath upon a tithe withholding patron, and concludes by stating that the "rascal" was "reduced to such extreme poverty, that his (the parson's) wife was fain to make him a pair of breeches of her own petticoat, to cover his nakedness."—*Gateshead Observer.*

SCILLY ISLANDS.—A BAPTIST CHAPEL LOST.—A correspondent, whose name and address we are in possession of, communicates the following facts:—"The sympathy of the christian public is needed by the distressed inhabitants of Tresco, in the Scilly Islands, who have unfortunately lost their chapel through the misconduct of two of the baptist preachers. They stand charged with having preached in church hours! and allowing the Bryanites to preach in their chapel!! which conduct they are told has broken a compact entered into at the time permission was given to build it, to the effect that it should only be used for the purpose for which it was built, and not used at all during the services of the established church. Enquiry has been made for the document proving such compact to have been made, but it cannot be found, as it was only a verbal agreement! And because this said compact, of which there is no satisfactory proof, has been thus broken, the lessee of the islands has told the transgressors that he can allow them to occupy the chapel no longer, and has ordered the person who keeps the key not to let any one have it without his permission. These preachers, however, did not interfere with the church service, but the church people established an extra service at the time when the baptists had been in the habit of preaching for many years past. According to this plan it is only to hold a service at church in the afternoon and the poor baptists are thrust out entirely and legally. It is also said the chapel was built for baptists, but they have allowed Bryanites to preach there, and have therefore broken the compact and fairly lost the chapel. Such is the logic which proves them guilty and passes their property into new hands. Is it lawful (we know it is not just) for dissenters in the Scilly Islands to be treated thus? Will a British christian public allow these things quietly to continue?"

LONDON NEWSPAPER ONE PENNY

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

In the last number of the *Nonconformist* are some remarks on Lord Stanley's speech at Lancaster, and on the questions put to him by Mr. John Brooks of Manchester. They conclude thus, "When Lord Stanley, however, adverted to the protection afforded to manufacturers by our present import duties, he returned a Rowland for an Oliver, and effectually hipped his political adversary. The cotton lords were not, in their prosperity, more liberal than are the corn lords." This passage is calculated to convey a wrong impression. The charge against Mr. Brooks was, that he, as a flax spinner, had a protecting duty. Now, the only protection the flax spinner has is a registration duty of one shilling for 112lbs. of linen thread imported, amounting, possibly, to ten shillings per cent. *ad valorem!* This clearly is no duty for protection, and Mr. Brooks knew that he had no protection, although he was not informed as to the precise state of the law on the subject; but manufacturers in this neighbourhood are so little accustomed to rely upon protection for prosperity that, doubtless, nine-tenths of them are wholly unaware that this protection of one shilling per 112lbs. has been accorded to them by the grace of the landowners. If Lord Stanley had charged a Newcastle coalowner with receiving a protection on his coal, it is more than probable that the man might not have known that there was a protective duty of 40*s.* per ton on all coals brought to Newcastle from foreign countries! But his adversary would not be effectually hipped; all that would be proved would be this, that both parties were somewhat uninformed as to the point in question, and that one of them ventured a reckless assertion, which the other at the moment was not able to refute.

It has never been asserted that cotton lords, in their prosperity, were more liberal than corn lords; but cotton lords have never been monopolists, and corn lords, for nearly a century, have never been otherwise than scheming, by laws made by themselves, to help themselves at the expense of all other classes of the community. The manufacturers know well that they have no protection; that is, that they do not, by the cunning contrivance of a law, rob their neighbours; and they have repeatedly declared their desire that all duties on manufactures imported should be abolished, along with the duties on foreign grain. They know, and Lord Stanley knows, if he were honest enough to tell it, that those who export to every quarter of the globe cannot have any protection from import duties. The cause of the monopolists verges towards its fall when such miserable subterfuges are resorted to by its crack defenders. I am induced to write this, being unwilling that anything unsound should obtain circulation along with the sterling metal contained in the *Nonconformist*.

I am respectfully,

Rochdale, 10 mo. 2, 1841. JOHN BRIGHT.

THE ANTI-CORN-LAW LEAGUE.

To Richard Cobden, M.P.

My Dear Cobden,—Early in the year 1839 I agreed to give one hundred pounds per annum for three years, to the Anti-corn-law League for the promotion of the total and immediate abolition of all taxes on the food of the people. On leaving this country for America in March last, I addressed the following letter, which was published the 11th of that month, to the Editor of the *Anti-corn-law Circular*.

"As circumstances are likely to preclude my paying any personal attention for the present to the great object for which the Anti-corn-law League is established—the immediate and entire abolition of the tax upon the food of the people, I have concluded to double my contribution to their funds for the present year, provided there is no compromise of the high and impregnable ground the League have taken, and that they will neither relax from their efforts nor swerve from their purpose until they have obtained the complete removal of this disgraceful and cruel impost.

"The Anti-corn-law League have already acquired sufficient influence to make the political partisan very anxious to make it subservient to his narrow and selfish views and purposes; and perhaps there never was a time in which it was in greater danger of splitting upon the rock upon which so many institutions, having noble objects in view, have made shipwreck; I mean an increase of supporters who are without any steady principle, but who join it because they see it is becoming popular, and who may be so numerous as to outvote those who have borne the burden and heat of the day, and who have long laboured at the oar with only the good of their country at heart, uninfluenced by any selfish or party motives. I have, however, not only so much confidence in the high principles of the leaders of the League, but of the numerical force of their honest supporters, that I fully believe any attempt such as the one to which I have alluded by their enemies in disguise, would be instantly met and indignantly repudiated. Joseph Sturge.

"Birmingham, 3rd month, 6th, 1841."

My inquiries since my return to England give me too much cause to fear that the Anti-corn-law League were not faithful in their opposition to the measure of the late government in favour of a fixed duty of eight shillings per quarter upon wheat, and that many of the members of the League either secretly or openly gave their support to this measure. Absurd and ruinous to the country as the system now is, and pledged as the great majority of the present House of Commons may be, against the adoption of any course which can be a real relief to the labouring population, the proposed fixed duty would, I believe, have been still more fatal to the best interests of the country.

No one of common observation, unless completely blinded by prejudice and self interest, can visit any of the numerous districts in foreign countries where rival manfactures are springing up like magic, and in consequence of the present facilities of communication are increasing in a geometrical ratio, but must see that the injury inflicted upon this country by the monstrous system of taxing the food of the people is irreparable, that nothing short of its total removal can stop the progress of this injury, and that even this, if delayed a few years longer, will not prevent its bringing ruin upon many of our manufacturers and the extreme of destitution upon our labouring population. Our rivals both on the continent of Europe and in America are already so powerful and wealthy, as to be able to influence their respective governments in favour of duties to protect their own manufactures, and discourage ours; even in those countries in which, but for the infatuated measures of our corn monopolists, they would have found it to be their interest for ages yet to come to have taken our manufactures in exchange for their agricultural produce. The incontrovertible proofs of the injury inflicted by our corn and provision laws, are far too numerous to recite here; but I will mention a few facts which have recently fallen under my observation.

On board the British Queen in which I sailed for New York, was a gentleman connected with a manufacturing establishment on the continent of Europe, now employing from 4,000 to 5,000 hands in making goods which he was then going to sell in the American markets, and which he candidly told me he could afford to do at fully ten per cent. below the English prices—an advantage solely to be traced to the operation of our tax upon the food of the people. Whilst in the United States I visited the city of Lowell, in New England, which less than twenty years ago contained not more than forty or fifty houses. It has now upwards of twenty thousand inhabitants, and the following are some of its statistics made up to the 1st of January, 1841. Ten joint stock companies, with a capital of 10,500,000 dollars, having 32 woollen and cotton factories, besides print works, &c., with 178,868 spindles and 5,588 looms, employing 2,172 males and 6,920 females, who made in 1840, 65,802,400 yards of cotton and woollen cloth, in which were consumed of cotton alone 21,424,000 pounds.

The average amount earned by the male hands employed, exclusive of their board, is four dollars and eighty cents, or about twenty shillings sterling a week, and of the females two dollars, or about eight shillings and sixpence sterling per week. The profits to the shareholders upon their capital employed from eight to fifteen per cent. Although the establishments I visited were principally for the manufacture of cotton and woollen, it is well known that the competition in our hard-ware and other goods is going on with equal rapidity, and stimulated by the same cause. Not only is the pecuniary remuneration of all connected with the manufactories at Lowell thus ample, but the moral and intellectual standard of the people employed will bear comparison with any in the world. A monthly periodical is issued the entire contributions to which are the original composition of the young women who work in the factories, and no person of immoral character would find or remain in employment in these establishments for a single day.

The pleasure that I felt on seeing this orderly and well dressed population leave the factories at their dinner hour, was in no small degree lessened by reflecting upon the contrast which was at that moment to be found in many of the manufacturing towns of my native country, arising from the selfish and narrow policy of the British landowners. Since my return to England, I have received a letter from a well known American citizen, of which the following in an extract:—

"*New York, August* 6, 1841.

"I hope to receive the earliest information respecting the wheat question. It is expected there will be a convention at Cleveland, Ohio, next month or in October, at which it is possible I may be present, and it will probably be then necessary for us to determine on our course of policy with regard to the tariff: i. e. whether we shall resolve to adhere strictly to *free trade*, let England do as she may, or whether we shall unite in the retaliatory principle with our Government to lower our duties as fast as England lowers hers. This latter has many advantages and appeals very strongly to national pride. There are also many arguments in its favour. I am not fully convinced by them, and yet I am not unaffected by them. Shall we or shall we not be more likely to succeed in making an impression upon England by having a high duty actually laid on her manufactures, with a provision for reducing the duty in proportion as she reduces her fixed duty on our agricultural products?

"There will be a strong effort to raise a *northern* party on this basis, and the abolitionists will be greatly beset to join it—perhaps to lead it."

In reply I have urged my correspondent, who is an abolitionist, to keep his friends, if possible, to the sound principles of *free trade*, and sorry I am at the prevalent opinion that the Anti-corn-law League, or at least many of the influential members, have in some measure compromised the high ground they had taken. I have, however, paid my current subscription of £100 for this year, and I am ready to pay the extra £100, if Richard Cobden, who is so deservedly considered the leader and representative of the League in the House of Commons, will give me the assurance that they neither have nor ever will "relax from their efforts nor swerve from their purpose until they have obtained the complete removal of this disgraceful and cruel impost."

Should I fail in obtaining a satisfactory pledge for at least the *future* conduct of the League; I purpose presenting this money to some association whose object is by peaceable and christian means to secure such a representation of the people as the golden rule of "doing to others as we would they should do unto us" entitles them to claim; for I have been driven to the conclusion that it is not only hopeless to expect justice for the labouring population from the representatives of the present constituency, but that the infatuated policy which now guides our rulers will be persisted in until they plunge millions into want and misery, if not bring them to a premature grave.

I therefore think the time is arrived when every friend of humanity, of whatever class, sect, or party, should endeavour to obtain and secure for the people a just and permanent control over their own affairs.

Very respectfully,

Birmingham, 9th month, 29th, 1841. JOSEPH STURGE.

MR. COBDEN'S REPLY.

To Joseph Sturge, Esq., Birmingham.

London, October 4, 1841.

My Dear Sturge,—Your letter addressed to me in the *Morning Chronicle* of to-day has just reached me, and I hasten to give the fullest explanations in my power in answer to your inquiries. After referring to your former letter to me through the *Anti-corn-law Circular* written on the 11th of March, at the moment of your departure for America, in which you offered the munificent subscription of 200*l.* to the League for the present year, on the condition that it did not swerve from its object—namely, the advocacy of the total and immediate repeal of the bread and provision taxes, you proceed to state you have reason to suppose that the League departed from its principles during your absence from England. To quote from your letter:—"My inquiries since my return to England give me too much cause to fear that the Anti-corn-law League were not faithful in their opposition to the measure of the late government in favour of a fixed duty of eight shillings per quarter upon wheat, and that many of the members of the League either secretly or openly gave their support to it."

As you do not adduce the particular facts on which your suspicions are founded, I can only reply generally by assuring you, as a member of the council of the League, that no act of theirs, no word contained in their accredited organ, the *Circular*, and no sentiment uttered by their lecturers, warrant, so far as my knowledge goes, the supposition that they have ever

swerved from their fundamental principle. As you are pleased to regard me as the representative of the League in parliament, I must refer you to the reports of the debates for evidence as to how far I have been the undeviating advocate of the total and unconditional repeal of the bread-tax. The council of the League will feel bound to adhere to the principle laid down by their constituents, not less from a sense of duty than the conviction that it constitutes their bond of union and the main source of their strength, and that the slightest deviation from the strict path of justice will be the instant signal for the dissolution of the League.

With reference to your complaint that the League did not oppose the measure of the late government, I must remind you that the real governing power, the landed and other monopolists, held fast by the old law; they never attempted to force the fixed duty upon us. We regarded the government proposal not as an offer from a party strong enough to concede anything (as you will find by consulting the pages of the *Circular* at that time), but merely as a step in advance taken by a portion of the aristocracy. It was not our business to attack them, whilst another party, more powerful than the government and the people, were resolutely opposed to any concession. To my humble apprehension, it is as unwise as unjust, in any kind of political warfare, to assail those who are disposed to co-operate, however slightly, in the attempt to overthrow a formidable and uncompromising enemy. With regard to the opinion expressed in your letter, that the fixed duty of eight shillings would be a worse measure than the present law, I must say, although this is no longer a practical question, that I am of a different opinion. I know it has been urged, in defence of this opinion, that the average duty which has been paid under the present law amounts to *5s.* 9*d.* a quarter only, but the question is, what duty has been payable? You will find, I think, by the *Gazette* returns, that the duty payable has averaged upwards of 27*s.* since the passing of the present law.

I am sorry to remark the desponding tone in which you conclude your letter. It is something new and unexpected, I must confess, to find Joseph Sturge disposed to despair of any cause founded upon justice and humanity. For my part, I cannot be brought to the conviction that the government of any country can long withhold from a people their natural right to feed themselves. Last of all shall I be willing to believe that the British nation will submit, like paupers, to have their dietary fixed by parliament, and their appetites forced to conform to a sliding scale, framed by a few landowners to suit their pecuniary interests.

One unanimous protest from the bread eaters is alone wanted to ensure the downfall of this system. Let every town and village, every congregation, workshop, and family, prepare, during the winter, a petition for the repeal of the bread-tax. Let our countrywomen have their petitions for the Queen. Let them all be ready by the time of the assembling of parliament next spring. Let the number of signatures be sufficient to speak the voice of the whole people, and they will not speak in vain.

Believe me yours respectfully,
RICHARD COBDEN.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

PETITIONS FOR THE WEEK.

Corn laws, against alteration of, 1.
——— for repeal of, 15.
Distress, for inquiry into, 2.
Oaths, for substitution of affirmations for, 1.
Poor law amendment act, against continuance of commission, 1.
Timber duties, against alteration of, 2.

PUBLIC BUSINESS TRANSACTED.

MOTIONS.

1. Poor Law Commission bill—Order for committee read; motion made and question put, "That it be an instruction to the Committee, that they have power to introduce a clause, that it shall not be lawful for the commissioners, from the date of the passing of the bill, to declare the formation of any new unions in districts which are not already placed under the operation of the act 4 and 5 Will. IV., c. 76."—(Mr. Sharman Crawford.) The House divided; ayes 49, noes 131.
2. Motion made and question put, "That it be an instruction to the Committee, that they have power to make provision in the bill, that it shall not be lawful for the commissioners to disallow, by any general or other order, any payments which shall be made by the authority of a board of guardians for the relief of any poor persons or their families out of the workhouse, notwithstanding any powers given to them by the act 4 and 5 Will. IV., c. 76, to the contrary."—(Mr. Sharman Crawford.) The House divided; ayes 32, noes 146.
3. Order for third reading read; motion made and question proposed, "That the bill be now read the third time." Amendment proposed, to leave out the word "now," and at the end of the question to add the words "upon this day three months." Question put, that the word "now" stand part of the question: the House divided; ayes 133, noes 18. Main question put and agreed to.

BILLS PRESENTED, AND READ A FIRST TIME.

1. Exchequer Bills bill.
2. ——— Funding bill.

BILLS READ A SECOND TIME.

1. Exchequer Bills (£10,626,350) bill.
2. ——— Funding bill.

CONSIDERED IN COMMITTEE.

1. Population Payments bill.
2. Poor Law Commission bill.
3. Exchequer Bills bill.
4. ——— Funding bill.

BILLS READ A THIRD TIME, AND PASSED.

1. Administration of Justice (No. 2) bill.
2. Expiring Laws bill.
3. Population Payments bill.
4. Poor Law Commission bill.
5. Exchequer Bills bill.
6. ——— Funding bill.

DEBATES.

Wednesday, Sept, 29.

NEW POOR LAW.

On the order of the day being moved for the bringing up of the report on the poor law commission bill,

Mr. WAKLEY begged to ask the hon. member for Sheffield whether he was prepared to state to the house the name and address of the poor law guardian with whom he said in his speech the night before he had held a conversation in which his (Mr. Wakley's) name had been introduced?

Mr. WARD was not prepared to do so. He gave his word to the House that the conversation was as he had stated it. It took place six months ago, and it was very improbable that the gentleman would give permission to have his name mentioned.

Mr. WAKLEY said, that if hon. gentlemen were to be allowed to state conversations including a calumny of an atrocious kind against a member of that house, he would of course bow to that decision. If, however, he was to be attacked with unfair weapons, and that such a course was to be regarded as correct, lawful, and parliamentary, he was content, and would defend himself with weapons of a similar description. The hon. member had admitted the night before that the language he had made use of was not respectful towards him (Mr. Wakley), and he now informed the hon. member, without meaning any enmity or hostility towards him, that he considered the matter of so much importance that he should feel it his duty to sift it to the bottom. He felt that it was due to the character of the house, and to the safety and security of hon. members themselves, that he should do so, because if conversations were to be allowed to be retailed in that house, without any responsibility, he should like to know where would be their protection in debate [hear, hear]? There would be none. As the hon. gentleman objected to give the name and address of the guardian in question, he (Mr. Wakley) hoped he would state the name of the union of which he was guardian; for he (Mr. Wakley) would write to every individual member of the board, and ask him whether he was a party to any such conversation as had been alleged by the hon. member to have taken place, and in case they all asserted that they were ignorant of such a conversation, he should then know in whose honourable mind the calumny had originated.

The SPEAKER said he believed the rule to be, that when an hon. member made a statement in his place in that house, such statement was to be received upon the honour of that member [hear, hear]. That statement ought not to be questioned either in or out of the house, and the hon. member was clearly out of order in making allusion to the steps that might be taken out of the house, in reference to a statement which had been made by an hon. member in his place in the house.

Mr. WARD hoped, notwithstanding what had fallen from the chair, that he would be permitted to observe that there was nothing in the conversation alluded to which could be construed into a calumny, and certainly there was nothing calumnious in the expressions themselves. After the warm and violent speeches which had been made by the hon. member for Finsbury on the subject of the poor law in that house, it was not very surprising that a member of a board of guardians should have felt great horror at the idea—if left to interpret the law themselves—of having on every board a person, "a Mr. Wakley," as he stated, putting his own interpretation upon the principles of that law, and forcing others to adopt it, by raising an outcry of inhumanity. There was nothing personal in that remark. It was one which the member of the board of guardians was perfectly entitled to make, and he saw nothing in it that could interfere with the hon. member for Finsbury in the discharge of his duty in that house in whatever way he might think proper.

Mr. WAKLEY said, that the hon. gentleman had not quoted all the words he had used the night before, and had omitted those containing the calumny.

The SPEAKER (interrupting the hon. member) told him he was again out of order, according to the strict rules of the house, in referring to a former debate.

Mr. WAKLEY.—Then I don't know how we are to obtain explanations [a laugh].

Sir G. CLERK intimated that during the remainder of the session public business would be commenced at a quarter past four o'clock.

Thursday, Sept. 30.

NEW HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT. THE FINE ARTS.

In answer to a question from Mr. HAWES, Sir ROBERT PEEL said it was the intention of the Crown to issue a commission for the purpose of inquiring how far the erection of the two houses of parliament now in progress might be made conducive to the advancement of the fine arts. He preferred a commission to a committee, not only because there was some inconvenience in a joint committee of members taken from both houses, but also because a committee could not, like a commission, pursue its labours during the recess of parliament. He proposed to invite to the commission not only members of the legislature, but others who were eminent for their knowledge and taste upon subjects of art; and he had peculiar pleasure in announcing that among these Prince Albert had consented to give his attendance, for the purpose of rendering as complete as possible a structure which formed part of the Queen's ancient palace of Westminster Hall. He did not intend to suggest, for any of the members of the commission, any other reward than the satisfaction which he was sure they would derive from the opportunity of contributing to the advancement of the fine arts.

DISTRESS AT BOLTON.

Dr. BOWRING, in reference to the case stated by him on a former night of distress at Bolton, complained that the guardians of the union there had uncourteously contradicted him, and impugned his personal veracity. He had himself visited the wretched cellars of the poor in Bolton, and could bear testimony to the extremity of their suffering. He entered into particular cases, the details of which he stated to the House, with some analysis of the evidence on which they rested. Even if that evidence had a little exaggerated the amount of suffering, there was enough of substance to justify him in having pressed the subject upon the House. The general truth of his statements had been confirmed by acclamation at the public meeting held last Friday at Bolton. He was grateful to government for the recent inquiry there. He trusted it would be pursued to the extent required by the mischief. The increase of deposits in the savings' banks was no criterion of improvement among the distressed manufacturers: those deposits came chiefly from domestic servants, children, and other classes not comprehending the great body of artisans. There had been in the last three years an increase in the number of deaths throughout England, to the amount of four per cent.; and in Yorkshire and Lancashire (the manufacturing districts) that increase of deaths had been forty per cent. He was satisfied that the corn laws and the poor laws could not long exist together. He now moved for copies of the correspondence between the Home-office and the Poor-law Commissioners on the subject of the distress at Bolton.

Sir JAMES GRAHAM said, that at the desire of Sir R. Peel he had caused inquiry to be made into the subject of Dr. Bowring's former speech respecting distress at Bolton, and although there were some technical objections on the score of privilege to the production of some of the papers, as having reference to what had passed in the House of Commons, he was willing to produce extracts which would answer the substantial purpose of the motion. As the objection of privilege thus opposed itself against complete answers to parliamentary statements, he trusted that members would be the more cautious as to their speeches, and recommended that any case requiring investiga-

tion should be sent in writing to the Home-office, which might be answered without any infraction of privilege. The cases which Dr. Bowring had now brought forward were wholly new matter, and government of course could not be prepared to meet them; but the Doctor's former statement was wholly rebutted by the facts, which Sir James Graham then read from the report of the commissioner sent down to inquire. He did not deny the existence of distress, but showed that Dr. Bowring, however unintentionally, had overstated its amount. The exaggeration had been originally got up for the purpose of an anti-corn-law meeting, and repeated in the House with a somewhat similar object.

Sir R. PEEL believed it to be true, that in some of the manufacturing districts there had been some increase of mortality, but in others of the same districts the mortality had decreased. It would have been but fair if Dr. Bowring, in producing the returns of the augmentation, had produced also the returns of the diminution, appearing in the very same document. Mr. Cobden had blamed him (Sir R. Peel) for citing the returns of savings' banks only for the last two years. He would now give those returns for July, August, and September, 1837, 1838, and 1839. For every one of these years he showed a surplus of deposits beyond withdrawals, and moreover an increase in the number of depositors. Sir R. Peel was proceeding to state some facts in contradiction of Mr. Gibson's recent assertion, that thousands were suffering in Manchester from typhus fever occasioned by want of food, when

Mr. GIBSON appealed to the order of the House which prohibits reference to former debates.

Sir R. PEEL was astonished that a technical rule should be set up to prevent a minister from making a statement of simple facts on a question of such extensive interest and deep importance. He was not about to comment on Mr. Gibson's speech, but merely to state the actual numbers of the patients in the Fever Hospital at Manchester. These numbers he then read, showing an actual diminution, instead of an increase, in the number of fever patients.

Mr. GIBSON said he merely wished that when a member's statement was to be questioned notice should be given to him. The Fever Hospital returns proved nothing; typhus patients were not carried into hospitals for fear of infection. He did not mean to persist in saying that there were thousands — that was a form of speaking; but at all events there were many. He inferred with satisfaction, from Sir R. Peel's anxiety to disprove the amount of distress, that if it could be really proved, he would recur to the remedies of the late ministry for relieving it.

Mr. COBDEN demanded the returns of savings' banks for 1835 and 1836; but deemed any inference of prosperity from such documents to be fallacious. He thought the present attempt to underrate the distress would only irritate the people. If Sir R. Peel would look into the whole subject like a Prime minister, he would be satisfied that the great body of his countrymen had not met in public to tell her Majesty a lie.

A few words having been added by Messrs. DARBY, C. BULLER, Lord SANDON, Mr. AGLIONBY, Mr. HARDY, and Mr. ALDAM, the subject dropped.

Friday, October 1.

POOR LAW COMMISSION BILL.

On the third reading of the poor law commission bill, Mr. Fielden moved as an amendment, that it should be read a third time on that day three months. The poor law, he said, was the rock on which this administration were likely to split, as the last had done. The powers of the commissioners were unconstitutional; the conservatives had attacked the system at their elections, and the people who had supported them on that ground now petitioned in great numbers against that system. It was a libel on the labourers of this country to charge them with a disposition to idleness; they were the most industrious poor in the world. After seven years' experience, they thought themselves competent to judge of this commission: and not only the poor, but the rate-payers themselves were now complaining of it. He appealed to statistical facts to show the deteriorated condition of the people under the existing system.

Sir C. DOUGLAS considered the present government fairly entitled, from the recency of their entrance upon office, to the short respite asked by them for the commission in question.

Captain PECHELL opposed the bill because the commission operated to his dissatisfaction in particular localities with which he was personally acquainted.

Mr. BORTHWICK said, that if the question now before the House were on the principle of the poor law, he would vote for Mr. Fielden's amendment. Some persons regarded that principle to be the independence of the people. This was, indeed, a highly desirable object; but the present poor law did not take the right means for effecting it. The humble labourer, toiling honestly from youth to age, was as estimable as the eminent statesman; yet this peasant was made by the existing poor law the subject of an experiment "*in corpore vili.*" He besought the government to abstain, for the present, from any positive averment of their intentions on this point, but to keep their minds open on so important a matter. His second objection to the principle of the poor law was the transfer of the administration of relief from the natural local protectors of the people, to a central authority, with a power amounting almost to that of legislation. But he must vote against the motion of Mr. Fielden, because he thought it right to let the government have time for the mature consideration of this great question.

Mr. C. WOOD approved the recent declaration of Sir James Graham in favour of the principle of the poor law. Without some such intimation the commissioners would have been left throughout the approaching winter unsupported in the due discharge of their functions. Meanwhile humanity had two securities—the general feeling of those intrusted with the duty of relief, and the vigilance of the numerous persons disposed to question the poor law.

Mr. BARRY BALDWIN supported the present bill, reserving till next year his opinion on the general measure.

Mr. HINDLEY stated some individual cases of severe privation, in which he considered the relief given under the poor law to be grievously inadequate. He would however, on no account exaggerate such cases with a view to prejudice the question of the trade in corn.

Captain POLHILL supported the present bill, trusting that the measure to be introduced by government next session would be such as not to require opposition.

Mr. COBDEN had no objection that the labourers should be thrown upon their own resources, but those resources ought not at the same time to be destroyed by a corn law. This was forcing them to make bricks, and yet refusing them straw. The present corn law of 1828 had been as injurious to the people as the old corn law of 1815. He wished Sir R. Peel would consider during the recess, whether it would not be better to throw open markets, by which the working men might get employent, than to content himself with taking care of them when the want of employment had made them paupers.

Captain HAMILTON could admit the defects of the old system, and at the same time perceive those of the new. He disliked the strictness with which outdoor relief was denied, and the whole arrangement of the medical branch of the system. But he would support the present measure for the temporary continuance of the commission.

Mr. RENNIE feared, that if the principle of the present poor law were persisted in, the consequences would be serious. He disapproved of centralisation upon principle. It might as well be applied to all our other local institutions, as to the distribution of relief.

Mr. WAKLEY said jocularly, that he would follow the example of Sir R. Peel, by announcing the course his own party intended to pursue. His own, like Sir Robert's, was a united cabinet; consisting, however, of himself alone. He had been much abused, not because he had changed his principles, but because he had not changed his seat in that house. When the whigs crossed over in 1835, from the left to the right of the chair, he had long remained in his accustomed place; therefore he was guilty of no inconsistency in keeping his position now. Two great factions had long made the people their instruments; but one of those factions had by its own misconduct fallen from power, and was now, he thanked heaven, extinct. He would not help to revive it; he hoped the people would not; he hoped the strife, if there must be one, would be between no two aristocratical factions, but between the now governing aristocracy and the democracy. He would take the earliest opportunity to turn out the present ministry; but meanwhile he would support such of their measures as he should consider useful to the country.

Mr. CALLAGHAN read a petition from Cork, against the powers of the poor law commissioners, as the justification of the vote he was about to give against the the third reading of the present bill. He adverted with disapprobation to the poor law lately passed for Ireland.

Mr. SHARMAN CRAWFORD, and Mr. HARDY, said each a few words; and

The House divided in favour of the third reading.

Saturday Oct. 2.

After a short discussion, the two bills relating to exchequer-bills were passed. A short discussion on the subject of the late report of the commissioners on prison discipline ensued, and the House then adjourned.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Thursday, Sept. 30.

The business of the House had little public interest to render it attractive.

BRIBERY AT ELECTIONS.

On the question being put that the House do now adjourn,

Lord BROUGHAM reminded their lordships that on the first day of the session he had called their attention to the important subject of the bribery, intimidation, and other malpractices which had prevailed to an unprecedented extent at the late elections. He had stated what he would now repeat, that he thought their lordships could not do a more acceptable service to the country, or better discharge their duty, than to take this subject into their consideration, and to appoint a committee to inquire into the whole subject, with a view to legislative measures for the prevention of the evil. He had himself much inquired into the matter, and he had more particularly examined into three flagrant cases, which he had selected for this purpose, for this reason, that they showed these mal-practices to prevail alike among all parties; for the charge in the one case would be directed against the party late in power, now in opposition [some exclamation from Viscount Melbourne here attracted Lord Brougham's attention, who paused, and apparently called upon Lord Melbourne to explain].

Viscount MELBOURNE said he had simply uttered a remark, objecting to the term "opposition" being used in this way. In the other House members had been repeatedly called to order, and admonished that it was in the highest degree unparliamentary to talk of "the opposition;" for that it was altogether irregular to suppose that men came into parliament for the purpose of forming an opposition.

Lord BROUGHAM said that, at all events, one of these cases which he had examined more particularly afforded clear matter of charge against the party represented by the noble lord he now stood in front of [a laugh]; the second was equally clear against the party of the noble lords he stood over against [a laugh]; and the third implicated that other party in the world of politics which did not belong either to the one or the other of the parties he had just referred to. Whichever of the contending parties in a place contested possessed the most means, that party was found to be most lavish in the use of those means for the purpose of corrupting his fellow subjects. Those were greatly mistaken who attributed this lamentable state of things to the reform bill of 1832. His noble and learned friend on the woolsack had, in the debates that year, predicted that that measure would lead to increased corruption; but he (Lord Brougham) was of no such opinion. He considered that the natural and legitimate tendency of the reform act was the reverse of that suggested by the noble and learned lord, if only the legislature would lend its aid by providing all the necessary means for checking and punishing such crimes as those he spoke of. Under the old system, the legal expenses of elections was such, that a candidate might very well be called upon by his agents for thousands of pounds, without any reasonable grounds for supposing that the application of them was otherwise than legal; but now that under the reform act, the legal expenses at elections were reduced to a mere nothing, the candidate who handed over his thousands of pounds to his agents, did it with his eyes necessarily open to the fact that the money must go in bribery. If the legislature did not take due means for sup-

pressing these malpractices, and if bribery and intimidation continued to disgrace our elections, the fault would be, not in the reform bill, but in the legislature itself. He had consulted several members of the other House, on whose opinion he had full reliance, as to whether they saw any objection as regarded the other House, in such an inquiry and such a measure being undertaken in their lordships' House, and the opinion of these gentlemen was decidedly that, so as the proceedings were confined to prospective legislative measures, without reference to individual seats in the other House, and without reference to the punishment of past offences, there could be no objection to the House of Lords proceeding in the matter. Much, however, as he wished to proceed in this inquiry without delay, he felt himself, much to his reluctance, obliged to postpone it, for these two reasons—the short portion which remained of the present session, and the fact that there were upwards of 80 election petitions pending in the other House, which would not be disposed of until next session, and with reference to which some inconvenience might arise were such an inquiry going on at the same time in the House of Lords. He should, therefore, postpone this matter until the next session, after the election petitions were disposed of, but he was sure that a committee, when appointed, would elicit facts which would show the indispensable necessity for legislative interference.

Their lordships then adjourned.

Friday, Oct. 1.

THE CORN LAWS.

The Earl of RADNOR, in presenting some petitions which had been sent to him (the noble lord did not say from what places), praying for the total repeal of the corn laws, said he would take that opportunity of expressing his deep regret at finding that parliament was about to be prorogued, without entering into the consideration of that most important subject—the state of the corn laws. Ministers, he thought, incurred a fearful responsibility in allowing the two Houses to separate without entering into some inquiry on that question, to which he considered the government pledged by what fell from the noble duke (Wellington) opposite in the discussion on the amendment to the address on the first day of the session. The noble duke had given what he (Lord Radnor) had considered a pledge on that occasion, that the question should be referred to a committee, by saying that he should not object to an inquiry in the usual way. But now it seemed that the government intended to postpone any consideration of the subject until next session. He presumed that the parliament would not meet before February. He therefore looked upon this as virtually a postponement of any measure on the subject for a year, or perhaps a year and a half, for the experience which their lordships had had of the very tardy manner in which the proceedings of committees were conducted would tell them that it was probable the inquiry, even if it should commence early in the next session, would not be brought to a conclusion when the session should be at its close. So that any measure which the committee might recommend could not be brought forward until the session following. Was that the way in which this great subject was to be left, at a time when the people were suffering great distress in many parts of the country? Their lordships had seen that the sliding scale was a most unsafe system, for it kept the price of corn most oppressively high in some instances, and in others it did not afford that security to the home grower which it was intended to give. If corn was at 66*s.* the quarter, foreign corn could not be imported at less than 20*s.* per quarter duty, thus making it 86*s.* to the consumer. By the last averages the duty had come down to 1*s.* per quarter, and at that duty about 1,700,000 quarters of foreign corn had come into the country. Now, according to the returns made by several of our consuls abroad, wheat could be grown there and sent to this country at 40*s.* 10¾*d.* per quarter; and if this were correct, what, let him ask, was the actual sum paid by the consumer on each quarter of this 1,700,000 quarters? Why, it amounted to not less than 31*s.* 6*d.* per quarter. This sum, he need not say, did not go to the government in the shape of duty. No, but it went into the pockets of the foreign growers, to the grievous oppression of the poor consumers at home. But he did not believe that the returns of the consuls were quite correct. Taking, however, the price of foreign corn here at 12*s.* more than this 40*s.*, still the consumer here would have to pay 20*s.* per quarter more than the 52*s.*; that was, he would have to pay 72*s.* for every quarter of corn he consumed. Was this a price to which the poor people could reach, suffering as they were in the greatest possible degree throughout the country? He was in the country at the opening of parliament, and on looking at the votes he saw, amongst the first objects of its attention, a committee appointed on the ventilation of the two houses of parliament, and a bill for uniting Frogmore Lodge to Windsor Castle. Could he have done otherwise than turn from the perusal with disgust, when he found no mention made of the distresses of the people, or of any measure calculated for their relief? The distresses of the people were not denied, yet nothing was done, or even promised, for their relief, if it were only to show them that parliament did not turn a deaf ear to their prayers. He could not give any more fit name to such a course than the height of folly and of cruelty. When the noble duke was in office before there was great distress in the country, and nothing was done to relieve it. The result was, that the greatest discontent prevailed. He would not detain their lordships longer, but would conclude by again expressing his deep regret that ministers should have advised her Majesty to prorogue parliament without entering into the consideration of the distress which prevailed, with the view of providing some relief.

The Duke of WELLINGTON said, he would not follow the noble earl into any discussion on the corn laws on the present occasion, for the reason which he had assigned on a former evening—that it would be impossible to enter into any inquiry at the present period which would lead to any practical result. He did not mean to deny that there was distress in some parts in the country, but it was not arising from want of food. There was a large supply of corn in the country, though it might be somewhat dear. The noble earl had referred to what he (the noble duke) had stated on a former evening, as implying a pledge for an inquiry.

The Earl of RADNOR.—What he said was, that the noble duke had said he would not object to inquiry in the usual way.

The Duke of WELLINGTON.—What he said on the occasion referred to was, that if the subject (of a change in the corn laws) were to be considered as a measure of finance, it should be considered in a committee, but by that he did not pledge the government or himself, or anybody, to take that particular course, and most certainly he should not be understood as being favourable to an inquiry at the present time, which, he would repeat, could lead to no practical result. Under these circumstances he was ready to take his share of the responsibility of advising her Majesty to prorogue parliament until the measures were ready which would be submitted for its consideration, and until due time could be afforded for that consideration. It would be impossible to consider the subject to which the noble earl referred at this time, or to get that attendance of members which would be desirable, and let him add, that he had no reason to believe that the public would be in any degree inconvenienced by postponing the question till full time should be given for its discussion.

The Earl of RADNOR felt sure, that if important measures were brought under the consideration of the Houses of Parliament, there would be found no deficiency of attendance.

MANSFIELD MAGISTRATES.

The Duke of PORTLAND then rose, in pursuance of a motion of which he had given notice, to bring before their lordships the case of a Mr. Unwin, a magistrate in the neighbourhood of Mansfield, who complained that, having in the execution of what he considered to be the instructions of government in 1839, searched a house in which it was imagined that a large supply of arms were secreted, an action of trespass had been brought against him, in which, although the damages awarded amounted to only one farthing, he had been obliged to incur considerable expense. He claimed to be indemnified for this expense, and the noble duke concluded by moving an address to her Majesty, praying that this claim might be made the subject of inquiry.

The Marquis of NORMANBY defended the conduct of the late government in refusing the indemnification demanded. The search in which the legal proceedings against Mr. Unwin originated, had been made without a warrant, and upon information of the loosest and most inconclusive description. It was in no degree justified by the instructions which had been transmitted to the magistrates by Lord John Russell; and that these instructions were not in fault was sufficiently proved by the fact, that Mr. Unwin alone, of all the magistrates in the kingdom, had misinterpreted them.

Lord WHARNCLIFFE defended the conduct of Mr. Unwin, and went at some length into the details of the charge against that gentleman, and the opinions expressed by Mr. Justice Littledale, before whom the case had been tried.

After a few words from Lord BROUGHAM, the noble duke consented to withdraw his motion.

Saturday, Oct. 2.

The House of Lords sat for a short time in order that there might be no delay in the progress of the measures now before the legislature.

The Poor Law Commission Continuance Bill was read a second time and ordered to be committed to-day. The Expiring Laws Bill went through committee, and some bills having been brought up from the Commons and read a first time, their lordships adjourned.

Monday, Oct. 4.

MINISTERIAL MEASURES.

Upon the motion that the exchequer bills funding bill be read a second time, Lord MELBOURNE, although he excused as unavoidable the means which had been adopted to make up the deficiency, complained that the ministry should have at least taken care that their means were sufficient—they should have provided against the possibility of a failure. Their scheme had this great fault, that it had not succeeded. He had been accused of tampering with the finances by temporary expedients, and yet those who had been so loud in their charges now came forward with one of the very measures they had deprecated. He contended that ministers had no right to draw the attention of parliament to the financial difficulties of their position, unless they were prepared to institute an immediate inquiry into them. That there were difficulties there was no doubt, but they had been grossly exaggerated, and he denied most distinctly that the late government had left the country, or any branch of its revenue, to their successors in office in a state either of danger or of extraordinary embarrassment. If the evil were so great as it was represented, it should be met without delay.

Lord RIPON denied that the measure was by any means a failure, as a million more had been raised than was sufficient to cover the deficit. It was, indeed, but a temporary expedient, but it was not to be expected that a ministry which had only obtained office in September should be at once ready with a scheme of finance which would render a complete revision of our whole commercial system necessary. It was impossible to take an isolated view of so extended a subject; as the public service could not be carried on with so large a deficiency, it was better to have recourse to a loan than to hastily adopt an important scheme of legislation.

The Duke of WELLINGTON said that he had no corn law scheme to propose to the House. He could not propose any such scheme, for he had not yet sufficiently considered the subject.

Lord BROUGHAM hoped that the interval between the rising and reassembling of parliament would be devoted by ministers to the consideration of those commercial and political codes of laws by which the country was now governed, and from which so much distress resulted.

The bill was then read a second time.

Upon the motion of the noble duke, the House then went into committee on the poor law commission continuance bill. It was reported without amendments, and ordered to be read a third time this day.

The population payments bill also went through committee, the expiring laws bill was read a third time, and their lordships soon after adjourned.

It has been stated about the houses of parliament that all the business of the session will be despatched by Thursday next, and that on that or the following day parliament will be "prorogued," but without naming the day for its re-assembling "for the dispatch of business," as an intermediate prorogation will be requisite. At such intermediate prorogation the day for opening the next session will be named —not till then.—*Ministerial paper.*

Mr. Alderman Thompson, M.P., is about being created a baronet. A similar distinction will also be conferred on Mr. B. Bond Cabbell.

Sir James Graham and Lord Ashley have been appointed ecclesiastical commissioners.

SELECTION FROM THE PRESS.

(Spectator.)

HOW TO GET RID OF THE CORN LAWS.

The *Globe* and the *Nonconformist* have noticed our last paper on the corn question—both characteristically. The former, with its usual flippancy, and incapability of seeing anything in a political discussion but a game at dialectics and personalities between newspapers; and with a *dégagé* looseness of statement, the consequence, it may be, of the writer's not taking the trouble to apprehend correctly the views he professes to controvert, or it may be, of wilful perversion to serve the small purpose of the hour. The *Nonconformist*, on the other hand, with the candour of one earnestly in search of truth, expresses regret for its precipitation in imputing motives, in a tone that would have disarmed us even though we had been seriously angry with a journal the talent and evident sincerity of which we respect. We hope we have now done with personalities, and that on any future occasion the merits of the question immediately under discussion may be alone attended to.

The first weighty consideration urged by the *Nonconformist* as militating against our recent suggestion is, that "unanimity among the advocates of abolition would be instantly endangered by it." We fear that this hazard must be incurred in every case when the time comes for passing from the discussion of the abstract merits of any measure to the concerting of means for carrying it into effect—the *modus operandi*. It is easy to bring a number of men to express their acquiescence in the propriety of doing something; but when you prepare to set to work, every man, according to his natural temper, position in society, and peculiar habits of thought, sees difficulties which others overlook, or makes light of impediments at which they boggle. Differences of opinion, as to the best method of obtaining a common aim, are the causes, not the consequence, of discussion among those who have the same end in view. They are to be overcome and set aside, not by keeping silent about them, but dispassionately receiving and considering every suggestion, not in a mere controversial spirit, but with a determination to seek for good advice everywhere, and to adopt or reject proposals on the sole ground of their appearing adequate or inadequate. Such differences of opinion are means by which Nature enables men to mature plans for accomplishing their purposes. To suppress such discussions were to reject the means provided by Nature for our instruction. We admit the danger of their degenerating into angry controversy; but the risk must be run: "out of this nettle danger we pluck this flower safety." At the outset of their career, the Anti-corn-law League said, wisely, "We are not statesmen to devise laws and ordinances; we are private citizens complaining of a grievance, and asking statesmen to devise the means of removing it. Our object is to convince as many as we can of the truth of our representations; and with that view, to avoid being entangled in subordinate or irrelevant discussions, we simply affirm that the corn laws are noxious and ought to be abolished." This was sound policy in those who, at that time, were only commencing their career as missionaries of the truth: but our recent remarks were addressed to those who ought to be preparing to give effect to that truth by practical measures. When the League itself passed from mere teaching to the practical measure of agitating constituencies, it incurred the risk of exciting differences of opinion among its coadjutors: and such differences did arise; but, knowing they were inevitable, the League kept on the even tenour of its way.

Following up this train of thought, we feel inclined, instead of adverting in the present paper to the rest of the objections of the *Nonconformist* against our suggestion, to pass under review the leading plans that have as yet been proposed with a view to obtain the repeal of the corn laws. They all come under one of three classes. There are some who see no hope of getting rid of the corn laws but through a previous change in our political institutions; and there are some who believe that their repeal may be accomplished by the instrumentality of the existing legislature. Again, those who are averse to or hopeless of political change, differ as to the best method of indueing the legislature to repeal the corn laws: some see nothing for it but addressing their fears; others, more hopeful, are of opinion that a closer scrutiny of the real interests of all parties, and the adoption of a more conciliatory tone than has hitherto been taken by the opponents of the corn laws, might prove more successful. The minor varieties and discrepancies among the plans falling under these heads are infinite. A groundwork may be laid, however, for a satisfactory discussion of their various merits, by a previous estimate of the generic character of the classes to which they belong. As a contribution towards this, we offer a few remarks upon the three methods of obtaining corn-law repeal above enumerated—more as hints for reflection than as an exhaustive discussion and solution of the difficulties which surround the subject.

I. The proposal to carry corn-law repeal by the instrumentality of a change in our political institutions. This is the method of the chartists; who say it is hopeless to look for redress to a legislature constituted as ours now is. A similar view was entertained by Mr. Stansfeld and others in their ephemeral movement for parliamentary reform at Leeds. This, too, would almost seem to be the course towards which the *Nonconformist* points. "Nor must we forget," says that journal, "that the machinery for awarding compensation must after all be constructed by the landlords themselves:" and "With their majority in the House of Commons, and their all but unanimity in the House of Lords, we should be foolish indeed to expect that the guarantee-fund would be fenced about with strong restrictions." True; the legislature in which a class preponderates will legislate for the interest of that class: but this is a reason for distrusting any and every modification that can be wrung from parliament as at present constituted. And such, it would appear, is the opinion of the *Nonconformist*—"Were the corn laws the only grievance of which the nation has to complain, the thing might be worth further consideration. But they are not. Other monopolies exist. Our whole system of taxation needs revision. A great struggle is setting in between democracy and aristocracy, and the question is yet to be decided whether government shall be for the many or for the few. We may buy off the corn-law monopoly; but are we wise in doing so while we leave the power untouched which originally created it and can provide a substitute for it?" If these views are correct, corn laws are only one of many equally or nearly equally oppressive laws, and an organic change in our institutions is a prerequisite to their abolition. That a more perfect constitution of government is the proper guarantee for better laws—that a struggle between aristocracy and democracy is "setting in"—we potently believe: but that no improvement in legislation or national policy can be accomplished before the constitution be altered, we deny; and that corn-law repeal would be insured or even accelerated by organic changes, we must take leave to doubt. After seeing our system of restrictive commercial policy broken in upon, the test laws and the disqualification of catholics repealed, by close borough parliaments, through the instrumentality of public discussion, we are not prepared to assume that a ten-pounder parliament is made of more unyielding materials. And, on the other hand, we are so convinced of the evils inflicted by the corn laws on the community, and so certain that the struggle for organic changes must be a protracted one, that we deem it inhumane to postpone efforts for the repeal of the former till the latter has been obtained. If unanimity is necessary to insure the repeal of the corn laws, so must it be to obtain parliamentary reform. What unanimity is there among parliamentary reformers? Those of the middle classes are at odds with those of the working classes; innumerable shades of difference divide the middle-class reformers; while a deadly feud is raging between the believers in O'Connor and the coadjutors of Lovett and Hetherington. The day of parliamentary reform is, to all human appearance, too far distant to render it advisable to surcease any effort for corn-law repeal in the mean time. Nor are we certain that even a democratic parliament would immediately repeal the corn laws: the fallacies by which they are defended have still a strong hold on a large proportion even of the middle and working classes. Fully admitting the necessity of further organic reforms, and that the struggle for them has begun, we are of opinion that corn-law repeal may be successfully urged even in an unreformed parliament; that the necessity for it is so urgent as to render its postponement inexpedient; and that to mix it up as only one of many equally mischievous oppressions, would detract from its real importance and retard its attainment.

Lord Morpeth will leave England for America on the 4th of next month. He intends to visit the principal cities in the United States and Canada. His tour will extend over four months, and he expects to return early in spring.

Amongst the books bequeathed to the King of the French by the late F. H. Standish, Esq. of Duxbury Hall, is a bible which belonged to Cardinal Ximenes, and which his valued at 25,000 francs.

Sir Isaac Lyon Goldsmith is the first member of the Jewish persuasion who has ever received the honour of the baronetage. He has at all times been a most warm and consistent liberal.

Hunger!—The *Belfast Chronicle*, a tory paper, states, that for a trifling appointment in the customs, there have been, within the last few days, *fifteen hundred* applications!

A Companion to the above.—A situation on the Chester and Birkenhead railway being announced vacant, at £100 per annum, there were, in the space of two or three days, about 4,000 applicants for it!

Character of Man.—As storm following storm, and wave succeeding wave, give additional hardness to the shell that encloses the pearl, so do the storms and waves of life add force to the character of man.

There is a great difference between praying and saying one's prayers.

Conscious, wary guilt has every advantage over suspected innocence.

POSTSCRIPT.

Wednesday, October 6.

In the House of Commons last night Sir Robert Peel said that Sir James Graham was going to Windsor to-day in order to present to the Queen the petitions which had been forwarded to the Secretary of State, praying her Majesty not to prorogue parliament until the condition of the people had been inquired into. No public business of importance was transacted.

In the House of Lords the Earl of Radnor, in presenting a petition for the repeal of the corn laws, adverted to the sensation produced in the country by the determination of government to prorogue parliament without considering the distress of the people. The feeling on the subject would be increased by the declaration of the Duke of Wellington on the previous evening, that he did not mean to propose an alteration of the corn laws. The noble duke had also said that the people could not be suffering from want of food. He warned the House of the consequences that might ensue from the neglect of the interests of the people, and read extracts from correspondence which he had received on the subject.

The Duke of Wellington would not be intimidated by the Earl of Radnor, or his radical correspondents. He denied having said that he did not mean to propose any alteration in the corn laws. The subject was one not lightly to be entered upon. The distress existing in the country arose from want of work, and not from want of food, and parliament could not relieve that distress, if it were to sit till next February.

Lord Kinnaird expressed his conviction that no change would be made in the corn laws by the present government. They had been brought in by the monopolists, who had threatened to expel them from power again if they found it necessary.

The Duke of Richmond said he had not declared that the corn laws should never be altered; but, if they were altered, ample protection must be given to agriculture, which could not exist without it under its load of taxation.

Lord Brougham called the attention of the House to the subject of slavery and the slave trade. After stating the law on the subject of slavery, and expressing his fears that British subjects had unwittingly exposed themselves to its penalties, by engaging in the slave trade, Lord Brougham read extracts from the report of the India law commissioners on the subject of slavery in India. These extracts gave instances of horrid and systematically-planned murders for the sake of obtaining children to be sold into slavery. Lord Brougham, after reading the extracts, made an eloquent appeal to the government to take steps to accelerate the abolition of such atrocities.

Lord Ripon said, that the state of the law as it bore upon the transactions which formed the subject of the petition presented by the noble lord had been already taken into consideration, and it was the intention of the government, if it were found inapplicable to the cases to which reference had been made, to call upon parliament for additional powers.

Lord Ellenborough thought that the atrocities which were supposed to have their origin in the slave trade might be ascribed with more truth to Thuggee. The suppression of slavery throughout India had been for some time under discussion, but it was thought better that the initiative should be taken by the Indian government, which had every disposition to give effect to the wish that had been expressed.

The royal assent was given by commission in the usual form to the following bills:—the administration of justice bill, the lunatics bill, the foreign bishops consecration bill, the navy pay bill, the expiring laws bill, the Frogmore lodge bill, the royal gardens bill, the Marlborough estates bill, Riddle's estate bill, and Clayton's name bill.

CORN MARKET. Mark Lane, This Day.

The supply both of English and foreign wheat is moderate. The trade firm, at fully Monday's prices; but not much business doing. Barley very dull. Oats fully as dear.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"James Humphreys," and "Charles Brooker," received.

"Britannicus" is in type, but deferred until next week for want of room.

The letter on the opium question shall be inserted next week.

Our literary matter is necessarily deferred until the close of parliament. We cannot engage to insert articles in this department every week, whilst the houses of parliament are sitting.

We have again to apologise for being unable to execute all the orders we have received. Our impression had run out before the reception of several favours. We shall endeavour to prevent this for the future, if possible.

We respectfully request our country friends, in all possible cases, to give their orders to the news agents in their respective localities; where this is impracticable, the better way is to send the amount of subscription (26*s.* per annum) by post-office order, direct to the office, which will secure the regular transmission of the paper to their address.

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The Nonconformist.

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 1841.

THE CABINET VIEWED THROUGH ITS OWN PROFESSIONS.

THE mist in which Sir Robert Peel's government was studiously enwrapped, is gradually taking up as time rolls on. Here and there a break in the clouds opens to the public a partial view of the prospect before them. 'Tis not a pleasing one. So far as we are yet able to see, we have little reason to anticipate an agreeable surprise upon the clearing off of the mystery. What may be the precise character of the regions through which we are to pass, what few spots of fertility, what hidden nooks of verdure and of beauty we may stumble upon hereafter, it is impossible correctly to conjecture—but of one thing we are sure, that the general aspect of the scene is bleak and barren. Thus much we have caught a glimpse of through the openings made by the recent speeches of Lord Stanley and Sir James Graham. We cannot predict what the cabinet will do—but we may foresee pretty clearly what it will not do. Changes it is true may occur between this and the meeting of parliament in February—but unless those changes be such as to reverse the entire bent of the existing government, it is plain that no essential modification of the corn laws or of the poor law is intended. The Colonial Secretary, who knows the mind of the premier, virtually declares the first—the Home Secretary has been driven to divulge the last. We ask no more. Secrecy is ridiculous. These men may give something to the nation, but it is no part of their plan to give what the nation wants. The old system is to be pursued—poverty is to be first created and then punished.

We have no sympathy with destitute idleness. We cannot advocate the system which billets upon honest but humble industry swarms of lawless and vagrant paupers. We admit the urgent necessity which compelled our legislators to deal with our old poor laws with a firm hand. But we say that to shut up poverty in a prison, subject it to a dietary barely sufficient for the sustenance of life, deprive it of all comfort personal and social, treat it more harshly than crime itself, could only be justified after allowing industry free-scope, and affording it every facility for escaping the terrible ordeal of a union workhouse. We have no right to make men poor, and then, under pretence of discriminating between destitution and idleness, break up their homes and make them prisoners for life. If it be granted that we may give away bread on our own terms, and those terms such as only hunger in extremity would accept, at all events hunger ought not to be driven to extremity by our own previous injustice. The poor are first robbed and then whipped because they have nothing—robbed by the corn laws, whipped by the poor law. They have industry, but they may not exchange it for food—skill, but they may not purchase with it the necessaries of life. They are forbidden by act of parliament to gain their bread by the sweat of their brow. Selfish legislation robs them of employment. And when artificial scarcity and loss of markets have done their worst, and left them without hope, without a chance of recovering themselves, the same legislation consigns their affections, sympathies, liberty, manhood to a living sepulchre. We have heard men pour forth floods of indignation upon the West Indian planters as destitute of all the feelings of humanity. Their cruelty was of the grosser kind. But this—the co-existence of the corn laws and the new poor law, is more refined, and consequently more severe. It is unobtrusive and, to common view, impalpable—like a worm at the root; but we see its wasting, deadly effects in every once flourishing seat of manufacturing industry—houses untenanted, whole streets in desolation, haggard countenances, attenuated limbs, heaving discontent, crowded gaols. Misery stalks abroad by day and by night—driven forth from its haunts by urgent necessity; and in its face we read the terrible truth, that "the staff of life" has failed.

This system, in all its essential features, is to be maintained by the present cabinet—and the deliberations during the recess will turn upon the likeliest method of disguising its real enormity. The experiment is one of time upon the forbearance of the people—an attempt on the part of the aristocracy to ascertain how far the strain of oppression may be continued without bursting the bonds by which society is held together. This is, in simple truth, the real object of Sir Robert Peel's administration—to fix upon the limits to which the high-pressure system may be carried without rending in pieces the whole machinery of our constitution—to gauge the people's powers of endurance, and leave them under burdens so skilfully adjusted as, without crushing them, to be as weighty as possible. Not "what does the country want?" but "how much will the country bear?" is the question they mean to discuss and settle.

The question is not so easy of settlement as landlords, flushed with their recent acquisition of power, may be disposed to imagine. It will need some nice and intricate calculation to arrive at a correct result. A few errors in the sum, the leaving out of a single integer, may vitiate the whole conclusion, and bring out an egregious mistake, an awful political blunder. The annual increase of population; how many fresh hands that increase will throw into the labour market; to what extent excessive competition consequent thereupon will depress wages; how far foreign states are likely to supersede us in manufacturing skill, and enterprise, and success; to what further loss of capital our own manufacturers will submit ere they close their mills and transport their machinery to other lands; what numbers will thereupon be turned adrift upon the country unemployed, hungry, and made desperate by suffering; how this will affect the small trader, wholly dependent upon the custom of the industrious classes; what length of time will be required in order for the pressure to find out the wholesale dealer, and through him the merchant, and through him again the shipping interest, and last of all the landowner himself;—to take all these elements of disorder, and combine them in just proportions, and multiply them by winter, and allow for the amount which may be suddenly added by accident, or unforeseen contingencies, and to see to it that the whole sum of misery does not and shall not exceed the capabilities of the people to bear it with patient submission—is a problem which will demand unusual skill for the solution. This, however, is what the cabinet undertakes to solve. Let them beware of a mistake in their figures. They must have their pound of flesh—so much their bond gives them. But cool heads and wary politicians might not inappropriately warn them in the language of Portia to Shylock—

> "——if the scale do turn
> But in the estimation of a hair
> Thou diest, and all thy goods are confiscate."

Constitutional forms give you power and legal right to exact much of a decaying country—but there are bounds beyond which constitutional power may not trespass with safety. Desperation is the most heedless of all human passions. Take care that it be not aroused.

As though this business were not sufficiently difficult for the management of our government, as though the word "impossibility" were not to be found in their lexicon, Mr. Goulburn gives us a glimpse of increased taxation. This gives the last finish to the policy of the conservatives. Beyond this they cannot go, unless indeed church extension be forced by the ultra-tories upon the passive premier. The *Church of England Quarterly*, in an article on this subject, given in the number just issued from the press, states the price at which Sir Robert must purchase the support of the high-church party, and modestly demands an annual grant of three millions.

> "Quem Deus vult perdere prius dementat."

Here are teeth, if they could only get an opportunity to bite.

Alas! for unhappy Britain! What friend of his country can refrain from bewailing her cruel fate? Providence has blessed her, and man dashes Heaven's blessing with a curse. Here are the waters of abundance, and the nation parched with thirst is condemned to stand up to the throat in the streams of which it is forbidden by a selfish aristocracy to taste. We have all the elements of prosperity, and are hastening on to ruin—all the capabilities of greatness, and are fast dwindling away to poverty and insignificance. The head, the heart, the hands, the brawny muscles, and sensitive nerves of England's population lie paralysed by the torpedo touch of class legislation—and, infinitely worse, imbecility of mind is the dreadful concomitant of crippled and wasting powers. Our middle classes tremble and weep like children at the bare proposal to assert their own manhood—and cower and cringe beneath the pride of aristocrats, and lick the feet of those who lash them. And so long as it shall be so, so long we deserve our bondage. Cruelty and ignominy are but the just recompense of a slavish spirit. We cannot give their rights to the poor, and our own are therefore withheld. We will not trust the sons of toil, and aristocracy will not trust us. The retribution is just. We must dare to *do* right before we can expect to *receive* right. Our suffering is but the fruit of our own tendencies to oppress.

LET US JOIN THE OPPRESSED.

WE point the attention of christian ministers to the appalling returns of distress, of misery, destitution, and starvation, which the recent debates in parliament on the poor law have disclosed; and, as brethren of the sufferers, we ask them if it is possible they can remain quiescent, and not exert themselves to point out, in all the circles of their influence, the duty, the religious duty of all men, to exert themselves in promoting the political emancipation of the people.

Let them reflect upon the moral degradation which ever attends widely spread poverty—in the herding of the sexes together in squalor and wretchedness, and they will, we are sure, feel that the time has come when they should cry aloud and spare not, and seek to give a right direction to the people. Ministers of religion are ordained to teach men their duties, and the reasons of them; and if they do not teach them to wrestle for their rights by peaceable means, those who have not the gospel of peace in their hands will lay hold of them, and war or violence, instead of peaceable firmness, will be resorted to. Chartism is spreading—the chartists are feared even by those who are unwise enough to suppose that the removal of the cause of complaint will increase the evil, and that because discontent and out-

breaks are occasioned by a denial of right, the sufferers will be doubly dangerous if justice be granted.

In this way the actors of injustice—from the planters who support slavery in its immediate, direct and grossest form, to the tory or whig who contends for political slavery—have always reasoned. Injustice works misery upon its inflictors as upon its victims—the planter is in constant dread of rebellion, and becomes a greater tyrant to the sullen slave; and the tories and whigs multiply their penal laws and prosecutions, as their apprehensions and the apprehensions of their timid and politically narrow minded supporters increase.

Yet chartism spreads, and the principles of the charter spread still more. The show they have made at the hustings, the returns they have received upon the show of hands in some cases, and the forests of hands held up in all populous places where the destitution exists, and serfdom and ignorance do not, will not be lost. Men not interested for either section of the aristocracy will reflect that hands could not be shown if there were not men there to show them—that these men will go home strengthened in their convictions of personal injustice because those hands were counted as nothing, not because the owners did not possess human souls, but because they did not possess acres of land or the requisite number of bricks; and they will be more deeply convinced of their right to be represented, and more firmly disposed to question the title by which the rent of the land is given to the few—they will be the more disposed to refer to the original title, and to teach their children to look to the first and second chapter of Genesis, to learn that it was given with all its fruits by God to his creatures in common, and that though for the purpose of culture occupancy must be secured to some, that that is no reason for alienating the rent from the common purse.

They will be disposed to think that the maxim that "the bible, and the bible only, is the religion of protestants" may be also read—that the bible, and the bible only, is or ought to be the political economy of protestants; and in the adoption of this latter maxim there is some danger that catholics and protestants may unite.

These hustings' movements cannot but present to the mind of the thoughtful and just politician the conviction that hungry men, who take these pains to force their claim to political emancipation upon others, are not to be evaded much longer by hustings' professions, after-dinner clap-traps, or parliamentary roundabout.

When they carry their candidates upon the show of hands, and then withdraw them because they know the returning officer would not enter their names on the polling sheet, and that by demanding a poll they would subject themselves to one-half of the expense of the polling booths without any corresponding advantage, it is time to consider, for the people are ruminating.

This movement is wise and worthy of men and citizens; it is putting the injustice visibly before the public. It is well to speak through the eye visual to the understanding, and this is a mode of doing so: it is a mode of showing that they value, and are therefore fitted to exercise the suffrage, and that they are beginning to see that it is folly to break into acts of violence, and war with bullets and the gibbet; but that to make injustice visible and flagrant is to advance the cause of justice and equal rights.

Sir Thomas Potter, in moving a resolution on the subject of the corn laws at Manchester, spoke of the great increase of crime, and said the number of felons and of misdemeanants tried, at the last New Bailey sessions, was three hundred, or very nearly so. He thought this a most appalling circumstance, and it was with feelings of horror that he had heard the observation, from prisoners brought up there, that they would prefer going to the New Bailey, for there they would be better fed than they would be at home. He said that the people could not bear such sufferings much longer; it would be impossible.

This appears to have been met with responsive cries confirming the statements of the poor prisoners, and intimating, that bad as is a gaol, many of those assembled, as to food and shelter, would be better off than they were out of it.

By delaying the repeal and talking about a fixed duty, the government have taught men to think, and they are now reasoning against monopoly as monopoly; the question is enlarging—it is advancing from the particular into the general. "We must destroy monopoly, or monopoly will destroy us," say the members of the Young Men's Society; and this is taken as a motto. Good; these young men will not fail to see that the monopoly of legislation is the great monster monopoly, and that they must destroy it if they would save their country.

The two sections of the aristocracy should not forget that there are hundreds of thousands who value the principles of the charter, who are not professed chartists. They know that the objects of the charter are universal suffrage, annual parliaments, vote by ballot, equal electoral districts, and payment of members; and, objecting not to these separately, they will see it advisable, if the aristocracy and the clergy do but keep up their resistance, to join the starving many, and then will come the end.

THE CORN LAWS AND THE SUFFRAGE.

We commend to the thoughtful perusal of our readers, the letter of Mr. Joseph Sturge to Richard Cobden, Esq., M.P. for Stockport; nor can we refrain from expressing our satisfaction at his manly and distinct avowal of opinions with which our own are so completely in unison. We are far from disposed to withhold from the Anti-corn-law League the tribute of gratitude due to them for the eminent service they have rendered to the cause of free trade. Their labours have been indefatigable. With courage which no difficulty could abate, zeal which never cooled, and perseverance which no disappointment could turn aside, they pursued the object for the attainment of which they originally started, year after year, with singular consistency. Their treatment of the fixed duty proposition of the whigs, however, was not worthy of their former career. They had declared as their motto "No surrender"—and yet looked, if not with decided favour, at all events with no sign of disapprobation, upon that measure which whilst it compromised their own principles would have removed to a greater distance all rational hope of embodying them in legislation. We looked for a bold and unequivocal declaration from the League against the ministerial plan—a resolution guarding the public mind against the delusion to which that plan was likely to give rise—and we looked in vain. The whigs went overboard before they capsised the ship—and we trust it has righted, whilst those who have the conduct of her have gained wisdom from experience.

The question now suggests itself, whether it is possible, with our present legislative machinery, to force through a measure for the entire abolition of the corn laws. We do not now pretend to inquire as to the wisest course to be pursued by the League, but as to the best steps to be taken by every man who has at heart the welfare of the country. Commercial reform has met with a serious obstacle—one which must either be surmounted or removed. It is a question which may well occupy the thoughts of right-hearted reformers whether more time, more expense, and more energy are required to remove or to surmount it—in other words, whether the power necessary to remodel our legislative constitution, must be greater, or is less available, than that requisite to wring from our present government a full recognition of free trade principles. This is a question which deserves dispassionate consideration.

We grant that agitation for the repeal of the corn laws has one seeming advantage—namely, that all political parties may unite in it. The advantage, however, is rather nominal than real—for independently of the fact that the conservatives who have laboured for abolition have at all times been miserably few, the late elections proved that the co-operation of those few cannot be relied upon when their vote would separate them from their own political party. The apparent support of these men could not be expected in aid of any plan for the extension of the suffrage. But their loss would scarcely be felt—and what we gave up in numbers, we should gain in vigour.

It must also be considered that a vast proportion of the middle classes, zealous for the repeal of the corn laws, regard with little favour an extension of the suffrage. Indeed, this constitutes the most serious objection to commencing a movement having for its object an extensive measure of organic reform. They look upon the poorer classes of society with considerable suspicion—and deem it safer to keep their dissatisfaction pent up than to allow it a legitimate mode of expression. They swell the ranks, and greatly strengthen the hands, of our anti-corn-law leaders—nor can anything effectual be done without them. But then, on the other hand, their fears are not fixed, nor their opinions based upon good sense and sound principles. The one may be dispelled, the other changed. Set before these men a well-digested and thorough plan of reform, and long before the time at which we should be likely to compel our present House of Commons to give us free trade, tory misdeeds, general decay of commerce, greater familiarity with the question, and sound argument, will bring the greater number of them round. As yet they have never seriously thought upon the question. Give them time, ply them with reasons, and allow events to write, as they pass, lessons of wisdom upon their minds, and they will not long stand aloof from the movement—and whenever they join it, as join it they will, the thing will be carried with a high hand. We take it, that no longer time will be required to gain them over to searching organic reform, than will be necessary to squeeze out of our present system the measure upon which their hearts are now set.

We have further to bear in mind, that one main element of strength is now, and probably will be, unavailable for corn-law-repeal. The masses, as they are called, have no confidence in free-trade as an ultimate measure, and sagaciously enough foresee that were they to lend their aid in forcing it through the legislature, their own claim to be represented might as well sleep for another half-century. They are right in the conclusion. Who would care to help them were commercial reform once carried? An extension of the suffrage to the industrious classes would be the last thing which parliament would grant, or the middle classes seek, were the other question satisfactorily settled. It is vain, consequently, to expect their strenuous and united co-operation for the repeal of the corn laws. If suffering could have driven them to it, they would have joined the ranks before now. The men have a sense of what is due to them, and will die rather than give up their point. Now it is quite plain that, whilst they occupy their present position, the majority of ninety-one will never think of yielding up the bread-tax by which they profit so largely. There is no chance of the industrious classes coming over to us—there is no chance of getting free-trade during the existing parliament without them. One alternative only remains—that we go over to them. The thing will assuredly be done some day or another. The times will eventually drive us to that. We say, the sooner such a step is taken the better.

We have more than once intimated, heretofore, our belief that the time is come for the middle and the poorer classes to shake hands. One party must make the overture, and the middle class have nothing to concede to their humbler brethren but their rights. Starvation, it is supposed, will bring them to our terms. We doubt it. But supposing it should, can we justify ourselves in postponing their claims? What do they demand for themselves but that which

they assisted us to obtain for our own advantage? How did we feel when we were denied the franchise? To what lengths would not we have gone in order to wrest it from an unwilling legislature? And what reason exists why we should possess what is withheld from them? We anticipate nothing from an aristocratic government until justice is done to these exiles, or rather outcasts, from the domains of right and liberty. Satisfy them on this point, and on that of the ballot, and we believe the breach between them and the rest of the community may be healed. Our strength would speedily become irresistible—we might dictate terms to any House of commons—and with a faithful representation, not only should we be able to put down the corn monopoly, but giving to industry its rights, and shifting the pressure of our burdens from it to property, we might become what we have only as yet seemed to be—a great, a prosperous, and a happy nation.

THE ANTI-CORN-LAW LEAGUE, MR. JOSEPH STURGE, AND THE SPECTATOR.

THE preceding article was written before we had seen Mr. Cobden's reply to Mr. Sturge, or the reply of the *Spectator* to us. We have a few remarks to make on both, and they will range themselves, without the smallest incongruity, in one and the same article.

No man will think of questioning, even for a moment, the sincerity of Mr. Cobden, or of the Anti-corn-law League. The only question which can arise, respects the wisdom of their policy in reference to the whig proposition of a fixed duty of eight shillings. That the League did not formally sanction this proposition is at once admitted—but whether the League was not bound in consistency to protest against it, is a question of some interest. Their lecturers had, before the announcement of the government plan, uniformly represented the imposition of a fixed duty as a fixed injustice; and, subsequently to the annunciation of ministers, as uniformly urged the expediency of taking what could be got by way of instalment, and going for the rest. Now this we take to have been a deviation from principle—and the resumption of the full demand upon the exclusion of the whigs from office proves it to have been a sacrifice of principle upon the altar of expediency. With the utmost respect for the League and for Mr. Cobden, we must take leave to say, that silence upon the proposition of government did not quite become them—and, in our humble opinion, they would occupy a more dignified position by confessing the mistake than by labouring to defend it.

The article from the *Spectator* inserted in another column shows, in connection with that above, that our view of the wisest method for the abolition of this national grievance has not been misconjectured. We have at once to admit that the plan we commend is open to one objection which we urged against that of the *Spectator*—namely, the division which the adoption of it will necessarily create in the ranks of those who are friendly to corn-law repeal. There is, however, this difference—that the temporary division in the one case would be afterwards compensated for; in the other, would entail a certain loss. Were we now to go for organic reform, we should lose many of the middle class—we should gain all the industrious class, and we should rather press an additional motive on the minds of the aristocracy to settle the corn question at once, lest a more vital one should gain head—and, in such case, the *prestige* of victory would quicken our efforts to obtain all the rest. But should the plan of the *Spectator* be acted upon, although present division of strength might be followed by the realisation of our desires *quoad* the corn laws, it would effectually preclude the hope of organic reform for many years to come. The country is tired of fighting against outposts—we must march against the citadel if we would really succeed. And, were the liberal press to do its duty, this would be no such difficult matter. The organs of reformers falter, and the middle classes are afraid to stir.

We have only to add that we have searched through the *Spectator* of 1837 for his previous article on the guarantee fund, and will carefully go through the succeeding volumes. We have not hitherto been successful in our search—possibly the *Spectator* will spare us further labour by telling us where it may be found.

THE EFFECTS OF SCARCE AND HIGH-PRICED CORN AND PROVISIONS ON NATIONAL MORTALITY.

THE average annual mortality of the English population, sick and well and altogether, as we derive it from the valuable information in Mr. Farr's British Medical Almanac of 1837, is calculated by an eminent and correct statist, viz., Mr. Edmunds, the author of the Life Tables, at 1 in 47.2, also 1 in 49, and 2.12 in 100. Mr. Rickman, the statician of the census or population returns of 1811 and 1821, estimates the mortality at 1 in 51. Dr. Bisset Hawkins states it at 1 in 60. The annual mortality among the prisoners of war in 1813 was 1 in 55. At Gibraltar the mortality of the garrison, with every security from medical police, was 1 in 48 men. In private life, the profoundly learned Dr. Thomas Young states, from a very high authority, in his work on Medical Education, &c., that 1 dies yearly out of every 70 born at the same time, which has been found very nearly confirmed by those who have occasion to note the deaths of the clergy, the lists of admirals and generals, for friends who await vacancies by casualties or natural death. But Dr. B. Hawkins, in his article "Medical Statistics," in the Cyclopædia of Medicine, brings forward this very remarkable exception to the annual average mortality, that though not more than 1 in 41 in 1801, it rose so high in 1817, a year of scarce and dear corn, as 1 in 17. In that year the average price, by Dr. M'Culloch's tables, was 94*s.* per quarter. The quantities imported were—foreign, 1,033,934; colonial, 30,100; total, 1,064,031: entered for home consumption, 1,053,942. This was the highest quotation for the last 24 years; and taking the annual average mortality at 1 in 58, the same mortality is raised by dear and scarce corn to 4.15 in 51 persons, or 1 in 17. It is therefore conclusive that years of dear and scarce corn greatly increase the national mortality, though the farmer tells us, with an air of authority, that man does not live by bread alone; but we say bread is the staff of life. These facts furnish an additional and powerful argument against our iniquitous corn laws! Dr. Hawkins lays it down as a first principle, that the mortality of this country has diminished in the same degree in which English prosperity has gradually increased, and *vice versa*. Here then is the fact staring us in the face, and speaking trumpet-tongued to the illiberal oligarchs and sordid monopolists and their dependent relations, the poor gentry, who live at the expense of the public pocket, by exaction of the nature of a private and personal protection, and not a government tax. Have we not the conviction of the truth, that the people are starved or half poisoned in years of dear and scarce corn? or, at all events, despatched at the rate of 1 in 17, by the landowners and monopolists, to keep up their exorbitant rents, and to pay their mortgages, private debts, and other pecuniary incumbrances?

SUMMARY.

THE talk of the week has been more abundant than the events—and that talk is comparatively of minor interest. On Wednesday last, upon the bringing up of the report of the poor law commission bill, Mr. Wakley and Mr. Ward indulged in some gentle sparring: the former gentleman having been seized with virtuous indignation, that some poor law guardian, according to the statement of the latter, had expressed a horror, lest the grant of discretionary power to poor law guardians might introduce "a Mr. Wakley" to every board. The conversation between the members for Sheffield and Finsbury was eminently characteristic. On Thursday, Dr. Bowring referred to a statement made by him some few nights before, respecting distress at Bolton, and complained that the guardians of the union there had uncourteously contradicted him and impugned his personal veracity. Now we are not much disposed to rely upon returns furnished by request to answer a special purpose, but we are certainly of opinion that more caution should be observed by honourable gentlemen in their statement of facts illustrative of the present condition of the poor. That condition is bad enough as to need no exaggeration—and an undertold rather than an overstrained tale always tells best in the long run. Mr. Gibson, too, committed himself on the same side, so that an impression is not unlikely to go abroad that the manufacturers are heedless as to the truth of facts employed by them for the furtherance of a purpose. The poor-law commission bill was read a third time on Friday, when Mr. Wakley declared his disappointment at the course taken by Sir Robert Peel, and that the strife would for the future lie between the democracy and the aristocracy. In the House of Lords on Thursday evening, Lord Brougham announced his intention of taking some practical steps for the putting down of bribery, intimidation, and other malpractices prevailing at elections, when Lord Melbourne, upon the reference of the learned lord to the party once in power, but now in opposition, took offence at the expression, and implied that to be considered in "opposition" was offensive to him. On Friday the Duke of Wellington, in reply to a question put to him by Earl Radnor, stumbled upon another of those declarations by which he sometimes displays his profound ignorance of the condition of the country which he is called to govern. "He did not mean to deny that there was distress in some parts of the country, *but it was not arising from want of food.*" What say the operatives of Bolton and Manchester to this?

We refer to the news from America as important.

A cabinet council was held on Wednesday afternoon at the foreign office. It was attended by Sir Robert Peel, the Duke of Wellington, Lord Lyndhurst, Lord Wharncliffe, Earl of Aberdeen, Lord Stanley, Sir James Graham, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Earl of Haddington, Earl of Ripon, Lord Ellenborough, Sir Henry Hardinge, and Sir Edward Knatchbull. The council sat an hour and a half.

A cabinet council was held on Saturday afternoon at the foreign office. It was attended by Sir Robert Peel, the Duke of Wellington, the Lord Chancellor, Lord Wharncliffe, the Duke of Buckingham, the Earl of Aberdeen, Lord Stanley, Sir James Graham, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Earl of Haddington, the Earl of Ripon, Lord Ellenborough, and Sir Edward Knatchbull. The council sat two hours and a half.

Her Majesty will hold a privy council at Windsor Castle this day, at which the royal speech on the prorogation of parliament will be agreed upon.—*Observer.*

Mr. Patrick Colquhoun, Hanseatic Plenipotentiary at Constantinople, signed on the 6th September last, a convention of commerce and navigation with the Porte.

Mr. Stevenson, the American ambassador, resigns his mission to this court in the course of the present month, and leaves in the Great Western steamer on the 23d inst., for Washington.

A new writ, moved by Mr. Sydney Herbert, to return a member in the place of Lord Fitzharris, now Earl of Malmesbury, was ordered last week in the House of Commons. By a species of representative fiction the new member, who it is understood will be Lord Somerton, eldest son of the Earl of Normanton, and only just of age, will be described as "the member for Wilton."—*Globe.*

On Friday last her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent arrived at Woolwich from Ostend, in the Firebrand steam frigate, having left the latter place at half-past ten o'clock on Thursday night.

Directions have been received at Buckingham Palace for the reception of her Majesty and the court, on Saturday, 9th October, where the Queen will remain till after her approaching accouchement.

GENERAL POLITICS.

FOREIGN.

AMERICA.—The Columbia mail steamer arrived at Liverpool on Thursday evening, with intelligence from Halifax to the 19th Sept., and from New York to the 16th. The United States were in a ferment, President Tyler having vetoed the second bank bill which had passed congress. He sent a conciliatory message to congress explaining his reasons; but he had been burned in effigy in several places. The veto was followed by the resignation of the whole cabinet, with the exception of Mr. Webster; and he says that he only remains in office to conduct to a pacific close some pending negotiations. The general cause of the resignation of the cabinet was the want of confidence exhibited to them by the President. Mr. Ewing, late secretary of the treasury, had publicly given that reason for his resignation. He stated, moreover, that at a cabinet conference the President approved of the very bill which he vetoed when it had passed congress without amendment: that the bill was specially framed to obviate the President's objections. The President had nominated the following cabinet—Mr. Forward, of Pennsylvania, to be Secretary to the Treasury; Mr. Upshur, of Virginia, Secretary of the Navy; Mr. M'Lean, of Ohio, Secretary at War; Mr. Legare, of South Carolina, Attorney-general; Mr. Wickliffe, of Kentucky, Postmaster-general. These nominations were confirmed on the 13th, as well as that of Mr. Edward Everett as Minister to England. Mr. Van Buren had published a letter, in which the conduct of the new President in rejecting both bills for the establishment of a "fiscal agent" is applauded to the echo. Congress adjourned on the 13th.

M'Leod's trial was to come on at the session which began at Utica on the 27th. The prosecution would be conducted by the Attorney-general. A general feeling appeared to prevail in favour of Mr. M'Leod's release. The United States government had taken measures to prevent his maltreatment by private violence. Mr. Webster had addressed letters to the Sheriff and First Judge of the county in which the prisoner was confined, informing them that he had received intimation from parties entitled to belief, that an attempt would be made to execute upon Mr. M'Leod the summary process of Lynch-law, and directing them to be on their guard to defeat any enterprise of the kind. Mr. M'Leod himself had received letters to a similar effect. The subject of his arrest had been alluded to in congress in a better spirit than before; and Ex-President Adams had expressed himself strongly against the grounds taken up for his detention.

The United States Bank of Philadelphia has ceased to exist. On the 4th a final assignment of its effects was made for the benefit of the creditors generally. The amount of property thus assigned is from 12,000,000 to 14,000,000 dollars; consisting of debts secured by mortgages, bonds, and receivable notes, &c. About 12,000,000 dollars had been previously assigned to the trustees appointed in June last, to meet the circulation and deposits of the bank.

Extract from a letter to Joseph Sturge, dated New York, Sept. 15, 1841.:—"Great sensitiveness appears to be felt in your country with regard to M'Leod. I think it is ill-grounded. M'Leod was duly indicted by a grand jury, for murder and arson, at common law—the old Saxon common law, which is the boast of England as well as of America, and which we glory in avowing we received from you—and will vie with you in maintaining in its purity and honour. He is, then, in the hands of the judiciary for trial, and there is no lawful way in which he can be removed from the judiciary but by trial. It was by this principle that we foiled Van Buren, in the case of the Africans. It was on this ground that Lord Palmerston resisted the insidious and infamous proposals of Stevenson in regard to the surrender of shipwrecked slaves. It is the vital principle of magna charta, and one which the statesmen of both countries are equally bound to cherish, instead of encroaching on it. Let the common law take its course, as it must and will. How will it look for England to make war upon the common law? It cannot be."

DOMESTIC.

METROPOLITAN.

On Wednesday, according to annual custom, the Lord Mayor for the ensuing year was elected. The names of Aldermen Pirie and T. Wood, as the next two in rotation, were sent up from the Common Hall to the Court of Aldermen, who, through the Recorder, announced the election of the former, who made the following observation in his speech in acknowledgment:—"Gentleman of the livery, I little thought forty years ago, when I came to the city of London, a poor lad from the banks of the Tweed, that I should ever arrive at so high a distinction."

On Thursday last, agreeably to ancient custom, the newly-elected Sheriffs for the City of London and County of Middlesex, were presented in the Court of Exchequer for her Majesty's approval. The civic procession arrived at Westminster Hall shortly before three o'clock, and immediately proceeded to the Court of Exchequer. The Cursitor Baron (Wm. Bankes, Esq.), having taken his seat on the bench, the Recorder made the address usual on these occasions. Mr. Bankes replied, and congratulated the livery on the choice they had made. Mr. Alderman Gibbs, the senior alderman present who had not passed the chair, then came forward and chopped two bundles of sticks—counted six horse-shoes and sixty-one hob nails, by virtue of which service, the corporation hold certain estates in Shropshire.

Meetings to petition against the prorogation of parliament have been held in Farringdon Without, Somers Town, St. Mary's Marylebone, St. Martin's-in-the-fields, St. Luke's, Shoreditch, Whitechapel, Mile End, Portland Town, Deptford, St. Paul Deptford, Hammersmith.

Jeremiah Foster, a bailiff of the Court of Requests, and Samuel Wilson, his assistant, were charged on Thursday, at Hatton Garden Police office, by Mrs. Miles, a widow, with having committed an outrage upon her, of almost unparalleled brutality. It appeared that they entered her apartments, and on being asked what they wanted, replied that they called for a debt of 6*s*. attempting, at the same time, to seize a clock in the room. Mrs. Miles remonstrated, and requested that they would allow her to go down stairs to procure the money, when Foster took out his staff and struck her with it violently on the arms. Wilson then pinioned her against the wall, Foster seized her by the neck and Wilson knocked her head against the wall, and knocked her down three times upon a chair, kicking her several times. The witness then showed her arms, which were covered with severe bruises, and said that her legs and body were also dreadfully bruised. The case being clearly proved, the ruffians were ordered to find bail to appear at the next sessions. The sufferings of the poor at the hands of the heartless bailiffs and brokers form one of the darkest chapters in their sorrowful annals.

During the night of Tuesday and early on Wednesday morning last, the metropolis and its suburbs were visited with violent showers of rain, accompanied by a very high and piercing wind from the N.N.W., which was the cause of a great destruction of property and loss of human life. In the neighbourhood of Highgate, Hampstead, Hendon, and Edgware, considerable damage was done to glass houses, and in one instance a beautiful conservatory, in the grounds of Ralph Hambleton, Esq., near Hornsey, was completely demolished. Several trees were torn up by the roots, and considerable damage done to houses in various ways. In the neighbourhood of Battersea it is stated that the chimney of a large manufactory was blown down, and a great deal of property destroyed. The wind blowing down channel caused many of the vessels in the Thames to shift from their anchorage, and by coming in collision with each other, much damage has been done to the shipping in the pool. The neighbourhoods of Somers and Camden Towns were strewed with broken tiles, chimney pots, and other missiles; and about three o'clock, when the storm appeared at its height, a lamentable catastrophe, involving the loss of human life, took place in Span's buildings, Pancras road. It appears that a man named Eliott Elmes slept with his wife and three children in the top back room of the house No. 19, Span's buildings, and whilst in bed the high wind caused a stack of very high chimneys to blow down; they forced their way through the roof on to the bed where the family were sleeping, and one of his children, a little boy about six years of age, was killed on the spot, the whole weight of the chimneys having fallen upon him. Mrs. Elmes was dreadfully injured about the head, and completely blinded, and but faint hopes are entertained of her recovery. The other children were also injured.

"What will London become?" is a question which may well be asked when the rapid extension of its numerous streets, squares, &c., is contemplated. One contract recently entered into by Messrs. Cubitt, the eminent builders, is for six thousand houses near Belgrave square. The sewerage of the ground, now in progress, will alone cost no less a sum than 25,000*l*.

Mr. Davis, optician, New Bond street, has invented an instrument which, by an unerring process, indicates the distance any vehicle travels, which he proposes shall be affixed in all cabs and hackney coaches, to prevent the impositions of the drivers. The manner in which the thing is effected is as follows:—the measurement of the ground is transferred from the wheel of the carriage to a small roller, kept in the periphery of the wheel by a spring, and by a mechanical contrivance known as a Hook's joint, which is attached to the sliding spindle of the roller. This mechanism accommodates itself to the eccentricity of the wheel and to every motion of the carriage, and renders it impossible to be put out of order. The measurement of the ground being thus transferred to the roller, is again transferred to some machinery similar to the works of a watch, inside the carriage, and thus the number of miles the vehicle has travelled is accurately indicated.

The total number of deaths for the week ending 25th September, as made up by the Registrar-general for London and the suburban districts comprising the metropolis, is 857; the number of males being 451, and of females 406. The total gives a number less by 69 than the weekly average of the three years 1838, 1839, and 1840, which was 926.

PROVINCIAL.

Sir George Cockburn has been returned by Miss Lawrence, of Studley Park, member (so called) for Ripon, in the room of Sir Edward Sugden. It is thus the Peel cabinet and other officials creep into parliament.—*Globe*.

At Liverpool, on Saturday evening a very numerous and highly respectable meeting was held in the Amphitheatre for the purpose of memorialising the Queen to institute an inquiry into the existing national distress. The meeting was convened by the mayor in compliance with a requisition signed by 3,500 inhabitants. The Amphitheatre was densely crowded, the pit, boxes and galleries being all full. On the stage, in addition to a number of other highly respectable merchants and tradesmen, there were, J. Molyneux, W. Rathbone, R. Shiel, T. Blackburne, T. Moorcroft, R. V. Yates, D. Mather, T. Mather, J. Crooke, C. Holland, James Harvey, jun., E. H. Harvey, R. Rathbone, T. Rathbone, Alderman Evans, Rev. J. Martineau, J. Ryley, Joseph Hornby, C. Rawdon, and L. Heyworth, Esqrs. The memorial was unanimously agreed to.

A numerous meeting of the inhabitants of Southampton, was held on Thursday last, convened by the mayor, in compliance with a requisition signed by 100 of the principal inhabitants and tradesmen, for the purpose of "considering the present high price of provisions, and the propriety of presenting a memorial to the Queen, praying her Majesty not to prorogue the two houses of parliament until they have entered upon a full consideration of the corn and provision laws, or at least have endeavoured, before the approaching winter, to provide some ready or hold out some prospect of alleviation for the deplorable privation and distresses which now prevail in the manufacturing districts, and too generally amongst a large proportion of the labouring classes of the kingdom." The memorial was unanimously adopted.

On Monday, the 27th ult., one of the largest meetings ever seen at Warrington, assembled to address her Majesty on the proposed prorogation of parliament. Not less than 3,000 persons were present. On the platform, besides the chairman John Rylands, Esq., were Joseph Crossfield, Esq., G. W. Hardy, Esq., Thomas Wheeler, Esq., John Rylands, jun., Esq., John Ashton, Esq., Peter Rylands, Esq., Rev. F. Bishop, George Crosfield, Esq., T. G. Rylands, Esq., John Dakin, Esq., Mr. Hurst, Mr. Forrest, Mr. J. B. Edelston, and other active reformers of the town. The memorial was unanimously agreed to.

A public meeting of the inhabitants of Leeds, convened by William Smith, Esq., Mayor, on the presentation of a numerously and respectably signed requisition, including the names of the leading merchants, manufacturers, and tradesmen of the town, was held in the Cloth Hall yard on Monday week, for the purpose of forwarding a loyal and dutiful address to the Queen, praying her Majesty not to prorogue parliament until the laws restricting the trade in human food shall have undergone full consideration; and also to petition parliament for the total repeal of those laws. Upwards of 5,000 persons were present, and, with the exception of some slight opposition by the chartists, a more orderly and attentive meeting was never held in Leeds. Mr. Alderman Goodman took the chair. Resolutions were moved by Mr. Hamer Stansfeld, Mr. Fairburn, Mr. West, Mr. Plint, Mr. L. Marshall, Mr. Bateson, Mr. Baines, jun., and the Rev. T. Scales.

On Tuesday week, pursuant to public requisition to the Mayor, a meeting was held in the town hall, Derby, "to consider the propriety of memorialising her Majesty the Queen, praying her Majesty not to prorogue parliament until some measures for relieving the present extremely depressed state of trade, and the daily increasing distress of her Majesty's faithful subjects, shall have been taken into consideration." The hall was crowded, and the greatest interest was manifested in the proceedings. Greater unanimity was never witnessed at any public meeting. Mr. Strutt, M.P., who was loudly cheered, addressed the assembly at some length.

On Thursday last, a public meeting was held at the town hall, Devonport, pursuant to a requisition signed by several members of the Town Council, for the purpose of taking into consideration "the propriety of addressing her Majesty and both houses of parliament on the subject of the corn laws, and on the import duties in general." The hall was crowded. E. Abbott, Esq., the mayor, presided. G. Leach, Esq., moved the address to her Majesty, which was seconded by C. Tripe, Esq., and supported by J. Norman, Esq., J. Rees, Esq., G. F. Somerville, Esq., and others, and carried unanimously.

On Wednesday evening last a public meeting was held in the Temperance Hall at Maidenhead, Berks, when a lecture on the evils of the present corn laws was delivered by Mr. Ebenezer Clarke, of the West Ham Anti-corn-law Association, to an intelligent and highly respectable audience. A memorial was adopted to her Majesty, to the effect that the houses of parliament should not be adjourned until the corn laws have been thoroughly discussed and permanently settled. This is the first time the subject has been entertained at Maidenhead, and from the feeling created we hope for the happiest results.

Petitions for free trade and a repeal of the corn laws have been sent from Kettering, signed by upwards of 900 persons. A memorial to the Queen, is also in course of signature, praying her Majesty not to prorogue the two houses of parliament until the most searching inquiry has been directed to the wants and difficulties of the industrious poor and the means by which the most effectual and speedy relief may be given them.

On Tuesday week, a meeting was held in Carnarvon, for the purpose of forming a committee to make arrangements for holding a ministerial Conference in Wales on the subject of the corn laws, similar to the one held in Manchester in August last. Resolutions were passed approving of the object, and pledging the meeting to do all in its power to further the objects of such a conference.

Feargus O'Connor and Brontierre O'Brien, have during the past week been honoured with public processions, public dinners, and soirees, in Lancaster, Liverpool, Manchester, Leeds and Sheffield.

We are sorry to announce the failure of a large and long established manufacturing house at Huddersfield for a very large sum. It is said that certain woolstaplers in Leeds alone are sufferers to the amount of 20,000*l.*; and others at Huddersfield are still more involved. The occurrence has caused a painful sensation throughout the manufacturing districts of the West Riding.—*Leeds Intelligencer.*

IRELAND.

The following is a correct list of the staff appointments of the lord-lieutenant: To be aides-de-camp—Captain Lord Francis Gordon, 1st Life Guards; Captain Arthur Lowry Cole, Unattached; Lieutenant Lord Aberdour, 71st Highlanders; Lieutenant Robert Peel Dawson, Grenadier Guards. To be extra aides-de-camp—Captain James Simpson, Unattached; Captain Freeman Murray, 60th Rifles; Lieutenant the Hon. Wellington Talbot, 7th Fusileers; Lieutenant Lord James Butler, 7th Fusileers; Lieutenant Lord William Frederick Hill, Scots Greys; Lieutenant Lord Charles Lennox Kerr, 42d Royal Highlanders.

On Tuesday week Sir Edward Sugden was sworn in lord chancellor of Ireland at the Privy Council, Chief Justice Bushe presiding. The lord chancellor has appointed his son, Henry Sugden, his secretary.

Lord Morpeth, previous to his departure for England, conferred the munificent sum of 1,000*l.* upon the Board of National Education, in whose welfare his lordship has always manifested the deepest interest.

The *Dublin Gazette* contains a proclamation, offering a reward of 100*l.* for the detection of some wretches, who, on Sunday last, set fire to the house of a man named Burke, at a placed called Kilmonee, in the county of Mayo, when, shocking to relate, Burke's wife and daughter were consumed in the flames.

MISCELLANEOUS INTELLIGENCE.

Dreadful Accident on the London and Brighton Railway.—On Saturday, about twelve o'clock, an extensive train, propelled by two engines, left Brighton for London, and proceeded safely until it arrived at Hayward's Heath, where the first engine got off the line and drew after it the tender and four carriages belonging to the train. The engine was dashed to atoms, and the engine driver and the engineer were killed on the spot. The tender and the four carriages were knocked to pieces, two of the passengers were also killed, three others were dangerously wounded, and many more, it is stated, have received severe contusions and wounds. It is stated that, owing to the great fall of rain during the past week, the foundation of the railway somewhat swelled, and hence the rail, in a slight degree, bulged out of its proper position. The sufferers were removed to Crawley and other places for medical assistance.

Dreadful Accident at the Penydarran Iron Works, near Merthyr.—A most serious accident occurred at these works (which are the property of Mr. Alderman Thompson, M.P.) on Thursday week, attended with a sacrifice of nine lives and nearly twenty other persons were so seriously injured that it is impossible for several of them to recover. It is supposed that one of the boilers burst, and destroyed a large portion of the works to so serious an extent that it will require two months to put them in proper repair. The bodies of the sufferers are mangled and scalded in a most frightful manner, and the distress of their surviving families is truly heart-rending.

Accident to Lord Sydenham.—The Governor-General of Canada has been thrown from his horse, by which accident he was severely bruised and his leg broken in two places. The latest bulletin of his excellency's health was not favourable; he suffered a restless night, and had shown symptoms of returning gout. Private letters received in town on Saturday from Canada represent the accident as one of a very dangerous nature.

Collision at Sea.—Loss of the Schooner Surprise.—Late on Sunday night last a collision, attended with the total loss of the schooner Surprise, a fine sailing vessel belonging to Jersey, took place in the roads off Yarmouth. On Sunday evening she arrived off Cromer Lighthouse, and in bearing down the channel a violent gale came on from the north west, which by ten o'clock had increased to a hurricane. The Surprise weathered the storm admirably, and was making about ten miles an hour, when she was run into by a collier brig, called the Robert and Ann, belonging to Sunderland. The collision was dreadful, the Surprise being cut down to the water's edge, and the bows of the brig partially driven in. Immediately they were disentangled it was discovered that the Surprise was in a sinking state, and the crew were compelled to take to the long boat and stand clear of the vessel. In about half an hour after she drifted on the Cross Sands, where she quickly became a total wreck. The crew were picked up at daybreak by a vessel passing, and they were safely landed. The other vessel was saved. The cost of the Surprise is stated to be 3,000*l.*

Alarming Fire in the Strand.—On Friday night, between eight and nine o'clock, an alarming and destructive fire broke out on the premises of Mr. W. A. Geddies, a mercer and draper, residing at No. 70, Strand. It appears that the gas lights in the shop window had imprudently been turned on too high, and had unobserved reached the breastsummer, joists, and flooring in the first floor, where the flames made rapid ascendancy. The fire-engines were promptly on the spot, and by great exertions the firemen, after a considerable time, succeeded in extinguishing it, but not before extensive damage to the valuable stock and premises had been sustained.

A Child killed by a Smelling Bottle.—An inquest was held in Manchester, on Friday week, on the body of an infant four months old, son of Michael Baines, a weaver. It appeared that the child's aunt had a smelling bottle, and, to gratify the child, took the cork out, and put the bottle to its nose, when it instantly became black in the face. They took it to the infirmary, where it died the following morning. Mr. Furnival, house-surgeon at the infirmary, stated that when the deceased was brought to the infirmary it was cold, and was labouring under symptoms of inflammation of the larynx and windpipe. He applied remedies, which somewhat relieved it; but there was no hope of recovery. On a *post mortem* examination, he found inflammation of the larynx and windpipe, which was the cause of death. The contents of the bottle was strong ammonia, the vapour of which might produce the inflammation. The jury returned a verdict of "Accidental death."—*Manchester Courier.*

Poisoning at Ridgemount, Beds.—A most dreadful murder, and attempt at murder, has been perpetrated in this village, by which one young lady has been poisoned, and the lives of a whole family endangered. The particulars are shortly these: Mary Ann, the eldest daughter of Mr. William Crouch of Chalfont, St Giles', was on a visit to her cousin Mr. Abraham Crouch of Ridgemount, near Woburn, Beds. It appears that Miss Elizabeth Crouch, the daughter of Mr. James Crouch of Caithnoe House, was the means of bringing to light some improper conduct on the part of the servants, who, receiving in consequence notice to leave the service, resolved on this diabolical mode of revenge. Some arsenic was mixed with a quantity of soda, which Miss Elizabeth was accustomed to take with her porter, but which, by some lucky accident, the young lady did not use. Some was afterwards put upon a beef-steak, which Miss Elizabeth did consume, and which caused her a violent illness, from which she is now suffering. A large portion also was put into a cake, of which all the young ladies partook upon an occasion of a visit from those residing at Caithnoe House to the residence of Mr. A. W. Crouch. All of them were immediately afterwards seized with great thirst, burning in the throat, and vomiting, except Mary Ann Crouch, who, being previously ill, was too weak to throw the poison off her stomach; and it entered her whole system, and she sunk under its operation, though medical assistance was instantly provided. The other young ladies are still very ill, and by no means out of danger.

Lighthouse on the Goodwin.—The cassoon upon which this lighthouse will be constructed is now completed; and, but for the recent commencement of the equinoctial gales, would have been towed to its place of final destination on the North Caleper Head of the Goodwin, as appointed, on the 1st or 2d of October. Under these circumstances, it has been deemed prudent to suspend further operation for about a fortnight, until the spring tides of the October new moon, spring tides only permitting the removal of so ponderous a machine.

Steam Coaches on Common Roads.—Mr. Hills, the inventor of a steam coach to run on common roads, whether ascending or descending, made an experimental trip last week from the manufactory in Deptford to Sevenoaks, a distance of about 21 miles. The coach started at 33 minutes past 1, and arrived at Sevenoaks at 10 minutes past 3 o'clock, including three stoppages for water and fuel. The first station was Bromley common, nine miles; the second, the Polhill Arms, eight miles; and the last, Sevenoaks, four miles or four miles and a half, from station to station. There was also a delay of about two minutes in ascending the first hill from Deptford, which it seems was to be attributed to the engineer not having got his fire well up before he

started. Afterwards the speed increased, and when no obstructions, as carts, carriages, or horses, were encountered, it was somewhat more than 23 miles the hour. This speed, however, could not be maintained; as, independent of the necessary stoppages in a crowded road, one of the pumps got out of order, and could not be worked. This, of course, was an accidental occurrence. A very few minutes were allowed the party to take any refreshment at the hotel at Sevenoaks, owing, we believe, to a scarcity of water for the boiler; and at 19 minutes past 3 the coach again started from amidst a crowd of "gazing rustics ranged around," and arrived in Deptford at 10 minutes to 5. The speed of this coach, therefore, under all circumstances, favourable and unfavourable, may be estimated at from 14 to 15 miles the hour, which is a medium between the rail-road and the mail coach. The carriage is a handsome vehicle, and the place occupied by the passengers, eight in number, is covered with a hood. The front, or box, has three seats. The driver, or coachman, sits in the front of these, and steers, or drives, with a wheel similar to that with which the Thames steam-boats are steered. The weight of the entire coach is four tons, and the pressure on the square inch from 60 to 70lbs. The boiler consists of vertical tubes inserted into horizontal tubes. The cylinders 10 inches diameter, 18 inches stroke. There are two engines, of 6-horse power each. It is calculated that it will work on the common road without requiring repair twelve months, and at one half the expense of a common stage or mail coach, the first cost being but 800*l*. For every 100 miles it consumes one ton of coke, at 35s. the ton. The length of the coach is 16 feet; the tire of the large wheels four inches and a half; and the small, three inches and a half. All the machinery is boxed; consequently not an atom of dust can permeate the engine, or affect its operations.

"A Striking Fact."—(From an East Indian letter.)—"In March last, as I was repairing to the native village of Bustom to survey a bridge which was thrown across the road, my attention was attracted to a number of human skeletons, which lay scattered in various directions upon the white sands adjacent to the course of the stream. Upon inquiry I learned that they were the remains of pilgrims who were on their way to the great pagoda at Juggernaut, and had been drowned two evenings before by means of a ferry-boat sinking with them during a violent north-wester. On my approaching, I perceived that the flesh had been completely devoured from the bones by Pariah dogs, vultures, and other obscene animals. The only portions of the several corpses that remained entire and untouched were the bottoms of the feet and the insides of the hands; and this extraordinary circumstance immediately brought to my mind that remarkable passage recorded in the second book of Kings, relating to the death and ultimate fate of Jezebel, who was, as to her body, eaten of dogs, and nothing remained of her but the 'palms of her hands and the soles of her feet.' The former narrative may afford a corroborative proof of the rooted antipathy that the dog has to prey upon the human hands and feet. Why such should be the case remains a mystery."

Colour of the Air.—When we look at the sky on a clear day, it appears like a large light blue arch set over our head, seen through the (supposed) invisible substance called air. But this is not the case: there is no doubt no blue dome above us, and when the sky is viewed from any elevated region of the earth, as the top of a high mountain, or in a balloon, and where we would expect that this supposed blue vault would be more distinct, and manifest its blue tint more decidedly, it appears not more blue, but dark or black. In proportion as the spectator rises above the surface of the earth, *and has less air above him, and that very rare*, the blue tint gradually disappears, and if he could attain a height at which there is *no air*, the sky would be perfectly black, there would be total darkness all around, except in the direction where the sun's rays fall upon him. Again, when we look at any distant mountain on a tolerably clear day, it will appear of a blue colour, somewhat like the sky, but a little deeper in the tint; and yet, when we approach the mountain, we see it is of a very different colour. When we look at a forest not very far from us, it appears of a green colour; but if we recede to a great distance from it, it will acquire a blueish tint, which gradually deepens as our distance from it increases. In these cases, then, it is seen that where there is very little air, the sky has only a very slight tinge of blue, and that the strength of this blue tint diminishes as the quantity of air diminishes; and also, that when we look at any very distant object, looking at it, of course, through a thick body of air, that object appears of a blue colour. If not itself of this colour, it must acquire the hue from being seen through a blue coloured medium. These well-established facts lead naturally to the inference that *the air itself is of a blue colour.*

Depending on One's Wits.—A journeyman tailor, who left this neighbourhood on tramp a short time ago, played off the following not very creditable trick. Being "hard up," (as the phrase goes), and rather fatigued, he rested his arms upon a gate leading to a corn field, and was ruminating, when a body of Irishmen came up. Fancying, from the tailor's manner, that he was the owner of the field, and in the act of looking at the crop to see if it were ready for the hook, they at once asked for "the job." The tailor hesitated for a moment, as if in deep thought, and then gave a half negative. The hesitation of the tailor caused the poor Irishmen to renew their entreaties, and at last the tailor said he had an objection to *Irishmen*, having employed some last year that did not do their work properly. The reapers assured "his honour" that they would behave "dacently" and do the work as it ought to be; but his honour was not disposed to trust them, unless they would deposit a certain sum in his hands. The poor fellows raised several pounds, the fruits of their industry, which they placed in his honour's hands, receiving, in return, orders to commence cutting the wheat on the following morning. We are sorry to add, the tailor, who practised the deception, got clear away with his booty before the "mistake" was discovered. He may yet receive his deserts. —*Derbyshire Chronicle.*

American Fun.—"Mrs. Grimes, lend me your tub." "Can't do it —all the hoops are off; it is full of suds; besides, I never had one—I washes in a barrel—and wants to use the tub myself."

A well dressed young gentleman at a ball, in whisking about the room, run his head against a young lady. He began to apologise. "Not a word 'sir,'" cried she, "it is not hard enough to hurt anybody." —*Boston Mer. Jour.*

RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

The half-yearly meeting of the Dorset Association of Congregational Churches was held at Wareham, on the 28th and 29th of September. The Rev. G. Jones of Lyme preached in the new meeting-house on Tuesday evening. On Wednesday morning a prayer meeting was held in the old meeting, from 7 to 8 o'clock; the attendance numerous and encouraging. At 8 o'clock a breakfast on behalf of the Sunday school Union was given in the British school room, when a number of most interesting speeches were delivered. The morning was occupied with the solemn services in connection with the public recognition of the Rev. Mr. Seavill to the pastorate of the church and congregation assembling in the old meeting house. The Rev. R. Chamberlayne of Swanage delivered the introductory discourse; the Rev. A. Morton Brown of Poole offered up the recognition prayer; and the Rev. Mr. Spink of Wimbourne addressed the pastor and the people. In the afternoon a large company of ladies and gentlemen sat down to an excellent dinner provided in the British school-room, after which the business of the association was transacted. In the evening devotional services were engaged in, and addresses delivered by the Revs. Messrs. Morton Brown, Jones, Rice, and Bodwell. Deep and thrilling impressions were produced. The meeting of the association was one long to be remembered.

A substantial and commodious chapel is now being erected in Chapel street, Ipswich, for the baptist denomination. The dimensions are 60ft. by 40ft. It will accommodate, independent of galleries, between five and six hundred persons.

On Thursday, Sept. 23, the new independent chapel at Clare, Suffolk, erected upon the site of the old building, was opened for public worship. In the morning the Rev. Alexander Fletcher preached from Haggai ii. 9. After the service about eighty friends sat down to a dinner provided for the occasion, amongst whom were Rev. T. Heward, now of London, and Rev. T. K. Verdon, of Sudbury, both formerly pastors over this church and congregation. In the evening the Rev. E. Mannering preached from Hebrews xi. 16. Very liberal collections were obtained after the services.

Latimer Chapel, Sittingbourne, Kent, was opened for public worship on Wednesday, Sept. 22. The Rev. A. Reed, D.D., and the Rev. J. Sherman, preached; and the Rev. Messrs. Halliday, Thomson, Foster, Breeze, Rook, Gibbs, Anderson, Parrot, and Chesson, took part in the devotional exercises of the day. A large number of friends assembled both at dinner and tea. The chapel is in the Italian Gothic style, and is remarkably neat.

The religious services connected with the fourth anniversary of the opening of the new general baptist chapel at Boston, held on Saturday and Monday week, were exceedingly interesting. On Sunday three impressive and excellent sermons were preached by the Rev. John Stevenson, A.M., of London, and the Rev. T. W. Mathews, pastor of the church. The congregations were large and the collections liberal. On Monday a tea-festival was held, when a numerous party of friends spent a social evening together in a manner at once pleasing and edifying. The speakers were Messrs. Mathews, Stevenson, Golsworthy, Watts, Hicks, Noble, and Benson. A spontaneous subscription was commenced for the erection of a school-room in Witham green, a part of Boston where a dense and neglected population have shown a desire for their children to be instructed by sending 130 to a Sunday school, which has been opened there by some active members of the above church.

The twenty-eighth anniversary of the Leeds branch of the London Missionary Society was held last week. On Sunday sermons were preached at East Parade Chapel, by the Rev. Dr. Halley of Manchester and the Rev. J. Young, A.M. of London; at Belgrave Chapel, by the Rev. Dr. Heugh of Glasgow and the Rev. Dr. Halley; at Queen street Chapel, by the Rev. J. Griffin and the Rev. Dr. Heugh; at Salem Chapel, by the Rev. E. Stallybrass, missionary from Siberia, and the Rev. J. Griffin; at Byron street Chapel, by the Rev. J. Young and the Rev. William Morton, missionary from India; at Marshall street Chapel, Holbeck, by the Rev. W. Morton and the Rev. W. Orgar; at Hunslet Chapel, by the Rev. J. Cummins and the Rev. Edward Stallybrass; at Potternewton Chapel, by the Rev. R. W. Hamilton; and at Wortley Chapel, by the Rev. John Ely. The public meeting was held on Monday evening, in East Parade Chapel. In this spacious building a large and respectable congregation was convened, and the earnest attention and unwearied continuance of the people, as well as their frequent expressions of approbation, fully testified the deep interest they felt in the cause of foreign missions. The chair was taken by the Rev. John Ely. The collections amounted in the whole to 320*l*.

On Friday, Sept. 24th, the new independent chapel at Wisbey, Yorkshire, was opened, when sermons were preached by the Revs. Messrs. E. H. Nolan and James Griffin of Manchester. On Sunday sermons were preached by the Rev. J. Kelly of Liverpool and the Rev. J. Glyde of Bradford. After the sermons collections were made in aid of the building fund.

During this month four new churches, affording sittings for 6,000 persons, will be consecrated and opened in London for divine service. Two new churches, in addition to those already erected, have been commenced in Bethnal green, and are in a forward state.

The Rev. William Glanville has accepted an invitation to the pastorate of the baptist church at Otley, Suffolk, and expects to enter on the engagements of his office on the second Lord's-day in October.

The ordinance of believers baptism was administered by the Rev. J. Peggs, at the Erewash bridge, Ilkeston, on Sunday week, in the presence of a large concourse of people. The candidates were two men and two women. The rev. gentleman addressed the audience from Mark xvi. 15, 16, when the ordinance was performed by one of the members of the church. The morning was remarkably fine, and it is supposed about 1200 persons were present.

A large and elegant room, 96 feet long, recently erected in Phœnix street, at the western extremity of Plymouth, near the Union-gate, has been taken as a place of public worship, by the independent dissenters, and was opened on Tuesday last. The Rev. George Smith preached in the morning and evening.

The annual meeting of the members of the Dudley auxiliary to the London Missionary Society was held in the Independent Chapel, on Thursday last. The Rev. James Dawson occupied the chair, supported by James Wood, Esq., John Whitehouse, Esq., the Rev. Sam. Luke, of Chester; the Rev. John Smith, Missionary from Madras; the Rev. G. Pritchard, Missionary from Tahiti; the Rev. J. A. James, and the Rev. J. Raven, of Birmingham, the Revs. J. Hill, Hammond, Reeve, Galloway, and others. The chapel was well filled by a respectable audience, and it appeared from the report, read by Mr. John Whitehouse, that the sum of 100*l.* had been collected during the past year. The addresses were more than usually interesting and caused considerable excitement.

The Rev. W. Knibb has, for some time, been anxious to commence a station, in connexion with the Baptist Missionary Society, in the neighbourhood of Unity Estate, Jamaica. It is with pleasure that we now announce that a piece of land has been leased for the purpose upon the above property. Saturday, the 17th July, having been announced for lining out the ground for a temporary school room and chapel, the people, to the number of about 200, assembled with their hoes, cutlasses, &c., to commence the good work. No sooner was the spot selected and measured than they fell to work, and in about an hour cleared the whole, and dug part of the foundation; after which a religious service, conducted by the Rev. Messrs. Knibb and Henderson, was held under the shade of a large mangoe tree. The size of the building, which will be erected immediately, will be 70 feet by 50, and as soon as finished will be used as a school room for the children in the neighbourhood.—*Baptist Herald.*

MARRIAGES.

Sept. 21, at St. James's chapel, Newcastle-on-Tyne, by the Rev. Mr. Jack of North Shields, the Rev. W. CAMPBELL, M.A., to Miss STODART, daughter of the late THOMAS STODART, Esq.

Sept. 28, at St. Martin's square chapel, Chichester, by the Rev. Joseph Benson, A.M., JOSEPH HUMPHREY, Esq., of Mickleham house, near Dorking, to MARTHA, daughter of Mr. JAMES NASH of Colchester.

Sept. 29, at Camberwell, by the Rev. Thomas Binney, the Rev. JOSIAH VINEY, of Herne Bay, to ANNA, third daughter of THOMAS PIPER, Esq., of Denmark hill.

DEATHS.

Last week after a painful and protracted illness, borne with submissive resignation, Lady ROCHE, the beloved wife of Sir DAVID ROCHE, Bart., M.P.

Sept. 29, at the Green Park Lodge, Piccadilly, aged 80, the Hon. Lady WILLIAM GORDON.

Oct. 1, after a protracted illness, borne with much resignation, the Rev. W. H. WOODWARD, independent minister, of Braughing, Herts, aged 42.

TRADE AND COMMERCE.

LONDON GAZETTE.

Friday, October 1.

The following building is certified as a place duly registered for solemnising marriages, pursuant to the act 6 and 7 Wm. IV., cap. 85:—

Salem Chapel, Dover. William Cross, superintendent registrar.

INSOLVENT.

DONE, JOHN, Lowes Moor, Worcestershire, paper hanger, Oct. 1.

BANKRUPTCY SUPERSEDED.

BRENTNALL, BENJAMIN, Aston, Warwickshire, miller.

BANKRUPTS.

BROOME, WILLIAM, Oxford street, linen draper, to surrender Oct. 15, Nov. 12; solicitors, Messrs. Turner and Henisman, Basing lane, London.

MOTT, JULIUS CÆSAR, otherwise JULIUS, Loughborough and Leicester, wine and spirit merchant, Oct. 16, Nov. 12: solicitor, Mr. J. Michael, Red Lion square, London.

OGBOURNE, WILLIAM WEBB, Honey lane, Cheapside, commission agent, Oct. 15, Nov. 12: solicitors, Messrs. Beaumont and Thompson, Lincoln's inn fields.

THOMPSON, CHARLES HENRY, Liverpool, music seller, Oct. 15, Nov. 12: solicitors, Mr. De Medina, 12, Crosby hall chambers, Bishopsgate street, London, and North Shields, and Mr. E. J. Kent, Liverpool.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

ANDERSON, JOHN, Edinburgh, jeweller, Oct. 6, Nov. 3.

FLEMING, JOHN and ALEXANDER, Drumacharan, Perthshire, cattle dealers, Oct. 6 and 29.

DIVIDENDS.

Oct. 22, Riley, late of 161, Fleet street, but now of 10, Gough square, Fleet street, printer—Oct. 22, Aldred, 23, Southampton row, Bloomsbury, bookseller—Oct. 22, Webster, 21, Bedford street, Covent garden, manufacturer of lamps—Oct. 22, March, 61, Cheapside, hatter—Oct. 22, J. and E. Barber, Cowper's court, Cornhill, stock brokers—Oct. 22, Bush and Co., London street, and Calcutta, merchants—Oct. 22, Freeman and Co., Bermondsey, Surrey, and Bristol, leather factors—Dec. 16, Newman, Lewes, Sussex, saddler—Oct. 28, Willerton, late of Swineshead, Lincolnshire, wool buyer—Oct. 29, Ramshay, Bradford, Yorkshire, grocer—Oct. 29, Geill, Whittle-le-Woods, Lancashire, calico printer—Oct. 25, Lewis, Tredegar, Monmouthshire, draper—Oct. 28, Baker, Kidderminster, Worcestershire, and Noble street, London, carpet manufacturer—Oct. 26, Preedy, Oxford, grocer—Oct. 28, Sykes, Leeds, music seller—Oct. 29, Toovey, Bristol, pawnbroker—Oct. 23, Smith, late of Liverpool, merchant.

CERTIFICATE—Oct. 22.

M'Neil, Clement's lane, City, general merchant—Johnson, Gracechurch street, City, wholesale ironmonger.

PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

Lonsdale and Rawlinson, Bank cottage, Barwick-in-Elmet, Yorkshire, conductors of a ladies' school—L'Estrange and Dyer, Euston place, Gower street, surgeons—Blogg and Aston, Bucklersbury, merchants—Thompson and Wright, Dover, spirit merchants—Giles and Hooper, Frome Selwood, Somersetshire, carriers—Richardson and Smithson, Leeds, drapers—J. E. and T. M. Nash, Bristol, oil and colour merchants—Boutcher and Co., Liverpool, hide and commission agents (so far as regards Branscombe)—Shepherd and Co., Sheffield, brewers (so far as regards Hatfield)—Satchwell and Arnold, Tabernacle walk, Finsbury, lithographic printers—C. and J. Dill, Oxford street, hosiers—C. and J. King, Abingdon, wine and spirit merchants—Parkes and Mousley, Birmingham, maltsters—Judson and Slack, Manchester, calico printers—Tattersall and Clare, Liverpool, cotton brokers—Wrigley and Wild, Gigg, Lancashire, bleachers—Harnett and Defferez, Museum street, naturalists—Hinde and Watkins, Oxford street, milliners—Smith and Reynolds, Wimpole street, Cavendish square, milliners—Darwell and Potter, Walsall, Staffordshire, attorneys—Scorer and Acomb, Nottingham, hosiers—M. A. and T. Baynes, Paternoster row, booksellers—Churchill and Hewson, Upper Gloucester place, Dorset square, surveyors—J., J., and B. B. Fielder, Southampton, grocers—Hare and Hale, King street, Cheapside, carpet manufacturers.

Tuesday, October 5.

The following buildings are certified as places duly registered for solemnising marriages, pursuant to the act 6 and 7 Wm. IV., cap. 85:—

Albany chapel, Frederick street, Regent's park. Joseph Ivemey, superintendent registrar.

Independent chapel, Witney, Oxfordshire. Fras. Hunt, superintendent registrar.

BANKRUPTS.

BAYLY, EBENEZER, Exeter, straw bonnet dealer, October 9, November 16: solicitor, Mr. E. C. Seaman, 12, Pancras lane, Bucklersbury.

BUSBRIDGE, HENRY, Upper North place, Gray's inn road, livery stable keeper, October 15, November 16: solicitor, Mr. Charles Cutler, Bell yard, Doctors' commons.

CAREY, JOHN BARNETT, Nottingham, lace manufacturer, Oct. 20, Nov. 16: solicitors, Mr. Rowland Yallop, 8, Furnival's inn, London, and Messrs. W. and S. Parsons, jun., Nottingham.

CHILVER, ROBERT, Ipswich, upholsterer, October 9, November 16: solicitors, Messrs. Overton and Jeffery, 25, Old Jewry.

COOPER, EDWARD, EDWARD PETER, BENJAMIN, and JOHN ALEXANDER, Trowbridge, Wiltshire, clothiers, Oct. 15, Nov. 16: solicitors, Messrs. Heathcote and Holman, 47, Coleman street, London.

GRATTAN, JOSEPH, Newbold, Derbyshire, brickmaker, Oct. 26, Nov. 16: solicitors, Messrs. H. and C. Hall, 16, New Boswell court, London, and Mr. Charge, Chesterfield.

HEYWOOD, JOHN, Heaton Norris, Lancashire, cotton spinner, Oct. 19, Nov. 16: solicitors, Messrs. Coppock and Woollam, Stockport, Cheshire, and Mr. J. Coppock, 3, Cleveland row, St. James's, London.

HOFFSTEDT, AUGUSTUS JOHANN, 8, Billiter street, Fenchurch street, merchant, October 9, November 16: solicitors, Messrs. D. Jones and Sons, Sise lane.

KNELL, JOHN CORKE, Millbrook, Southampton, cattle dealer, October 9, November 16: solicitor, Mr. Piercy, Three Crown square, Southwark.

WILCOCK, EDWARD, TEASDALE, GEORGE, and TURNER, JOHN, Ulverstone, Lancashire, paper manufacturers, Oct. 16, Nov. 16: solicitors, Messrs. Wilson and Harrison, Kendal, and Mr. Richard Addison, 8, Mecklenburgh square, London.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

GOWANS, JOHN, Springburn, railway contractor, Oct. 11, Nov. 2.

MACGILLIVRAY, DUNCAN, Greenock and Paisley, drysalter, Oct. 8, 29.

SELCRIG, ANDREW, Dysart, manufacturer, Oct, 11, Nov. 1.

TAYLOR, ALEXANDER, now or lately of Aberdeen, merchant, Oct. 11, Nov. 3.

DIVIDENDS.

Oct. 26, Perraton and Fletcher, Macclesfield street, City road, coal merchants—Oct. 26, Heywood, now or late of Exeter street, Strand, wine merchant—Oct. 26, Taylor, Austin friars, and of New York, North America, merchant—Oct. 26, Tilson, Henrietta street, Covent garden, banker—Oct. 26, Grant, late of the *Sun* office, 112, Strand, newspaper vendor—Oct. 26, Higton and Brewer, Broadway, Blackfriars, warehousemen—Oct. 27, Orme, Southwark, Surrey, distiller—Oct. 27, Samuel, 21, Leadenhall street, segar manufacturer—Oct. 27, Hill and Wood, Queenhithe, London, oil and colourmen—Oct. 30, Emmerson, Bishop Auckland, Durham, mercer—Oct. 29, Bell, Kingston-upon-Hull, seed crusher—Nov. 1, Bridge, sen., and Smith, Chesterfield, Bridge, jun., Whittington, Derbyshire, and Smith, Sheffield, road makers—Oct. 27, Potts and Co., Monkwearmouth shore, Durham, ship builders—Oct. 27, Proud, Sunderland, Durham, grocer—Nov. 3, Barnes, Derby, currier—Oct. 27, Thompson, Monkwearmouth shore, Durham, ship owner—Oct. 28, Innes, Gateshead, Durham, builder—Oct. 28, Dickinson, Bramley, Yorkshire, drysalter—Dec. 16, Clifton, Bath lodge, Worcester, proctor—Oct. 27, Pankhurst, Shelton, Staffordshire, manufacturer of mineral colours—Oct. 29, Mayer, Burslem and Tunstall, Staffordshire, earthenware manufacturer—Oct. 26, Buckett, Overthorpe, Northamptonshire, sheep salesman—Oct. 27, Wilkes and Co., Manchester, cloth merchants—Nov. 2, Bradshaw, Oswestry, Shropshire, mercer—Oct. 27, Paince and Co., Leeds, joiners—Oct. 27, Marsh, Plymouth, Devonshire, coal merchant—Oct. 28, Cranston, Ringwood, Hampshire, upholsterer—Oct. 27, Taylor, Thickhollins, Yorkshire, woollen cloth manufacturer—Oct. 28, Stevenson, Stafford and of Manchester, shoe manufacturer.

CERTIFICATES—Oct. 26.

Blood, North Audley street, Grosvenor square, surgeon—Blake, Devonport, draper—Madley and Courteen, Redbrook, Monmouthshire, brewers—J. H., J. S., J. K., and A. Heron, Manchester and Wigan, Lancashire, cotton spinners—Sims, 25, Portsmouth place, Lower Kennington lane, Surrey, fish sauce and pickle dealer—J. C. and C. Lockwood, Bradford, Yorkshire, worsted spinners—Woodward, Manchester, innholder—Wilson, Eton, Buckinghamshire, tavern keeper—Brett, Stoke Bardolph, Nottinghamshire, corn factor—Miller, Bristol, cabinet maker—Southee, late of the Bull Inn, Hertford, innkeeper.

PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

Orgill and Bell—Gratton and Grafton, 81, Fleet street, City, watch manufacturers—Coelho and Collinson, Kingston-upon-Hull, commission agents—Ledanois and Bourdel, 14, Rathbone place, blond and lace cleaners—S. and J. Collins and Commins, 84, St. John street road, Clerkenwell, printers—Golborne, Dobbs, and St. George, Liverpool, and Birkenhead, Cheshire (so far as regards Golborne), wine merchants—Newton and Lightfoot, Nottingham, pawnbrokers—Blake and Wilson, Leeds, stuff merchants—Royle and Crompton, Manchester, preparers of silk—Heap, Stenson, jun., Barston, and Bryan, Coalvillo, Leicestershire, iron founders—Jones and Smith, Birmingham, steel merchants—Luke, Pentreath, and Co., Penzance, Cornwall, dealers in foreign and British spirits—White and S. and G. Greenwell, Cheapside (so far as regards G. Greenwell)—Robson and Bowtell, 4, Cloak lane, Queen street, City, publishers—J. H. and W. Hansor, Hanley, Staffordshire Potteries, chemists—Mason, Liverpool, and Wilcock, Chester, grocers—Hornby and Tucker, Bath, Somersetshire, drapers—Bishop and Rudd, Luton, Bedfordshire, auctioneers—March and Smith, King's Lynn, Norfolk, mercers—London and Goodman, Henley-in-Arden, Warwickshire, grocers—Walker, Underdown, and Knowles, Sheffield, and 7, Beaufort buildings, Strand, silversmiths (so far as regards Underdown).

BRITISH FUNDS.

The value of consols has not varied much during the past week, but prices have been sustained with some difficulty. On Monday and Tuesday the public securities were steady, but with very little doing.

	Wed.	*Thurs.*	*Fri.*	*Sat.*	*Mon.*	*Tues.*
3 per cent. Consols	88⅞	88⅞	89⅛	89	89⅛	89⅛
Ditto for Account	89⅛	89⅛	89⅛	89⅛	89⅜	89⅜
3 per cents. Reduced	—	—	—	—	—	—
3½ per cents. Reduced	—	—	—	—	—	—
New 3½ per cent.	98¼	98¼	98¼	98⅜	98⅜	98⅜
Long Annuities	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bank Stock	—	—	—	—	—	—
India Stock	246	246	245	246	245½	—
Exchequer Bills	13 pm.	13 pm.	13 pm.	13 pm.	13 pm.	13 pm.
India Bonds, 3 per cent.	2 dis.	2 dis.	1 pm.	1 pm.	2 pm.	2 pm.

FOREIGN FUNDS.

Austrian	—	Mexican	25
Belgian	102¼	Peruvian	15½
Brazilian	65⅜	Portuguese 5 per cents	—
Buenos Ayres	—	Ditto 3 per cents	18⅜
Columbian	20⅞	Russian	112⅜
Danish	78¾	Spanish Active	22¼
Dutch 2½ per cents	51½	Ditto Passive	5⅛
Ditto 5 per cents	99¼	Ditto Deferred	11¼

SHARES.

Railways—		London and Brighton	44½
Birmingham and Derby	—	London and Croydon Trunk	13¾
Birmingham and Gloucester	56	London and Greenwich	8
Blackwall	10	Ditto New	18
Bristol and Exeter	27	Manchester and Birmingham	22
Cheltenham and Gt. Western	16⅛	Manchester and Leeds	—
Eastern Counties	8	Midland Counties	76
Edinburgh and Glasgow	—	Ditto Quarter Shares	19
Great North of England	—	North Midland	66
Great Western	77	Ditto New	33
Ditto New	54⅛	South Eastern and Dover	15
Ditto Fifths	7⅝	South Western	51⅛
London and Birmingham	158	Ditto New	26
Ditto Quarter Shares	22⅛		

MARKETS.

GRAIN, MARK LANE, Oct. 4.

The supplies of English wheat continue small, and the condition of it is generally indifferent. We have had a good demand from our millers, for the English and foreign wheat has been taken freely each market day, and is going largely into the country. The advance since this day week is 1s. to 2s. on English, and 3s. on foreign wheat.

Flour is in better demand, and ship flour is 1s. per sack higher.

The trade is dull for Barley, and grinding and distilling qualities 1s. per qr. cheaper. Malting barley supports last week's prices.

Beans and peas are unaltered in value.

The supply of oats is small, and we have a demand from consumers at fully last week's prices.

	s.	s.		s.	s.		s.	s.
Wheat, Red New	52	to 60	Malt, Ordinary	50	to 53	Beans, Old	38	to 40
Fine	64	.. 68	Pale	58	.. 60	Harrow	37	.. 41
White	56	.. 68	Peas, Hog	31	.. 38	Oats, Feed	21	.. 23
Fine	68	.. 74	Maple	36	.. 40	Fine	24	.. 28
Rye	32	.. 36	Boilers	37	.. 40	Poland	22	.. 24
Barley	26	.. 30	Beans, Ticks	36	.. 38	Potato	22	.. 25
Malting	34	to 38						

WEEKLY AVERAGE FOR OCT. 1.			AGGREGATE AVERAGE OF SIX WEEKS.			DUTY ON FOREIGN CORN FOR THE PRESENT WEEK.		
Wheat	63*s.*	4*d.*	Wheat	70*s.*	3*d.*	Wheat	10*s.*	8*d.*
Barley	39	5	Barley	39	0	Barley	3	4
Oats	22	5	Oats	23	9	Oats	12	3
Rye	38	5	Rye	38	11	Rye	12	6
Beans	45	2	Beans	41	5	Beans	3	6
Peas	45	11	Peas	46	6	Peas	1	0

SEEDS.

Linseed, English, sowing	54s. to 59s.	per qr.	Coriander	10s. to 16s.	pr cwt.
Baltic, ditto	— .. —		Old	16 .. 18	
Ditto, crushing	48 .. 54		Canary, new	90 .. 95	
Mediter. and Odessa	50 .. 54		Old	100 .. —	
Hempseed, small	40 .. 45		Extra	— .. —	
Large	48 .. 50		Carraway, old	50 .. 52	
Clover, English, red	— .. —	per cwt.	New	48 .. 52	
Ditto, white	— .. —		Mustard, brown, new	10 .. 14	pr bush.
Flemish, red	— .. —		White	9 .. 13	
Ditto, white	— .. —		Trefoil	16 .. 28	
New Hamburgh, red	— .. —		Rye grass, English	30 .. 42	
Ditto, white	— .. —		Scotch	18 .. 40	
Old Hamburgh, red	— .. —		Tares, winter	— .. —	
Ditto, white	— .. —		Spring	7, 6 .. 9	
French, red	— .. —		Large, foreign	— .. —	
Ditto, white	— .. —		Rapeseed, English, new	36*l*. .. 40*l*.	pr. last

PROVISIONS, London, Oct. 4.

There has been more doing in Irish butter, as well landed as on board, and at rather higher prices. The prices current may be quoted for Carlow at 90s. to 92s.; Waterford 86s. to 89s.; Cork, 84s. to 86s.; Limerick, 82s. to 84s. free on board, and about 1s. to 2s. over landed. The best Friesland sold readily at 102s. to 104s. per cwt., the quality being better than the previous arrivals. Bacon of prime quality, landed, found buyers for present wants to a fair extent at from 57s. to 62s. per cwt. Lard is not so much in request; prices are 74s. to 78s. Hams of fine quality, and of small sizes, have been in free sale at full prices. No alteration in beef or pork.

HOPS, Borough, Oct. 4.

The market is not so active for the new crop as it was a few days ago, but still prices are firm at the advance. There is not much inquiry for old hops. The duty is called £150,000, but in the judgment of parties in the trade this is above the mark. It seems evident now that the hops have come down light in many of the grounds in Kent and Sussex.

BUTCHER'S MEAT, Smithfield, Monday, Oct. 4.

The market was very heavily supplied with beasts; and although the attendance of dealers was numerous, the beef trade was excessively heavy, at a decline of 2d. per 8lbs. There was a large number of sheep on sale, which produced a sluggish inquiry for them, at barely stationary prices. The veal trade was excessively dull, at depressed rates, the primest calves selling with difficulty at 5s. 4d. per 8lbs. In pigs scarcely anything was doing, at a decline of 2d. per 8lbs.

Price per stone of 8lbs. (sinking the offal).

Beef	3s. 2d. to 4s. 8d.		Veal	4s. 6d. to 5s. 4d.	
Mutton	3 4 .. 4 10		Pork	4 2 .. 5 6	

Head of Cattle at Smithfield.

	Beasts.	Sheep.	Calves.	Pigs.
Friday	506	5,910	279	463
Monday	3,734	25,330	122	673

Newgate and Leadenhall Markets, Monday, Oct. 4.

Per 8lbs. by the carcase.

Inferior Beef	3s. 2d. to 3s. 4d.		Inferior Mutton	3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d.	
Middling ditto	3 4 .. 3 6		Middling ditto	4 0 .. 4 4	
Prime large ditto	3 6 .. 3 8		Prime ditto	4 6 .. 4 8	
Prime small ditto	3 8 .. 3 10		Veal	4 8 .. 5 2	
Large Pork	4 6 .. 5 0		Small Pork	5 2 .. 5 6	

POTATOES, Southwark, Oct. 4.

The arrival of potatoes during the past week has been as follows: from Kent and Essex, 615 tons; Devons, 165; Jersey and Guernsey, 210; York, 60: total, 1050 tons. The weather having been very wet of late, has lessened the supplies to the London markets from the neighbouring farmers, by preventing such large quantities from being taken up, which has increased the demand at the water-side.

York Reds	per ton 70s. to —s.	Kent and Essex Whites	per ton 50s. to 60s.
Devons	65 .. —	Jersey and Guernsey Whites	— .. 45

WOOL, Oct. 4.

LEEDS, Oct. 1.—We have not any alteration to report in this branch of trade during the present week, either as to demand or prices.

LIVERPOOL, Oct. 2.—Scotch.—Our arrivals of Scotch wool continue moderate, and there is a rather better demand for laid Highland wool, and in some instances, for particularly good lots, a shade more has been got.

GROCERIES, Tuesday, Oct. 5.

TEA.—On Friday last some large public sales were brought forward, when the trade appeared desirous to purchase, and the sales opened with a full room and a brisk competition for Black Tea, the better sorts of which realised an advance of 1d. per lb. on previous rates, while the lower qualities brought full prices. Green Tea was, however, nearly all taken in, and at easier rates; low Gunpowder sold 2d. lower. Of 12,480 packages passed auction, 6,000 were sold. Congou ordinary to good ordinary at 1s. 10d. to 1s. 11d., middling to strong blackish leaf 2s. 1d. to 2s. 4d.; fine 2s. 5d. to 2s. 8½d. The sales yesterday fully supported the prices of Friday, and of 5,000 packages that remained over, rather more than one-half was sold. Company's Congou has met a more ready sale since Friday, and the cash price has advanced to 1s. 11d. per lb.

COFFEE.—There was a somewhat better demand to-day for home consumption sorts, but more particularly for the better sorts, and the market looks rather firmer: 60 casks Berbice sold at steady prices, middling at 100s. 6d., and unclean ditto at 84s.; 77 bags fine ordinary pale and colourry Ceylon realised 70s. to 71s. per cwt.; 490 bags common East India were withdrawn.

SUGAR.—To-day the price of West India Muscovado Sugar was very fully maintained, and the demand was steady; both the grocers and refiners were purchasers, and upwards of 100 hhds. and tierces were disposed of; the good bright grocery sorts, however, formed the bulk of the sales, and were rather higher. By public auction 100 hhds. Barbadoes sold briskly, and at 6d. to 1s. per cwt. advance on previous rates, viz., at 57s. 6d. to 68s. for low to fine yellow, and one lot very fine at 70s. per cwt.

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Extract from a Letter by the Rev. J. Harris, D.D., author of "Mammon."

The conception and arrangement of the work are admirable; and as far as I have had the opportunity of judging, the execution of it equals the plan. I have read various parts of it attentively; and while I have not met with anything which I could wish to have been omitted, most unfeignedly can I say that I have found much calculated to inspire and sustain devotion.

Epsom.

A superficial survey of it, ("A Guide to Family Devotion,") is sufficient to manifest that its plan is the most complete of any with which I am acquainted, embracing everything which the service of the family altar requires, or admits of; while its execution is also such as to entitle it to commendation, and secure for it the circulation and use which its deserves.

Birmingham.

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Homerton.

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Hackney.

I am enabled to speak with propriety and confidence of the real worth and admirable adaptation to usefulness of your work. I have used it much in my own family, and I can truly say that as I advance it grows in my esteem. You have rendered a most important service to Christian households by your labours, and I have no doubt that its circulation will be as extensive as your most sanguine expectations could anticipate.

Liverpool.

On examination, I am much pleased with it, ("A Guide to Family Devotion,") and feel, when I am called to leave my family, that I leave for its use a good substitute behind me.

Weigh-House.

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York.

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